

Oyster River Cooperative School Board
Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

September 14, 2015

ORHS

7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Lisa Allison, Robert Mohr, David Taylor, Rob McEwan, Giana Gelsey, Marie O'Neill, Katrin Kasper, Michael Goldberg
School Board Representative Present: Denise Day

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

We reviewed a comparison of Day 1 enrollment and last year's LRPC prediction for 2015. Based on this comparison, we decided to make two small changes to the 2016-17 enrollment projections. The kindergarten and first grade split between the two elementary schools will be updated to reflect 2015 day 1 enrollment. Also, seventh and eighth grade enrollment in 2016-17 will be adjusted to remove a bubble in grade progression ratios at the Middle School that was created two years ago by extraordinary move-in rates concentrated in 7th grade. The adjusted figures for 2016-17 will be sent to Sue Caswell and the building administrators later this week to facilitate budgeting for next year.

The committee will also provide full-day kindergarten enrollment projections for 2016-17. We reviewed the births statistics for the district and noted that births to mothers residing in the ORCSD fell to 74 in the 12 months ending September 30, 2011 (children eligible for kindergarten in 2016-17) from 94 the prior year. Births fell further, to 69, for the period ending September 20, 2012. Discussion of full day kindergarten enrollment projections focused on narrowing the range between the low estimate, which is the number of children projected for half day kindergarten and the high estimate, in which the first grade model would be run with births from one year later (in this case the twelve months ending September 30, 2011).

Based on data provided by Dennis Harrington and Carrie Vaich, we determined that, on average, for every 5 new first grade students, 2 lived in the district and attended private kindergarten (presumably to take advantage of a full day program) and three moved into the district in the summer between kindergarten and first grade (a ratio of 1 to 1.5). We will use this ratio to narrow down the prediction for full day kindergarten enrollment, which will be presented as a range.

The date of the next meeting was set for Monday October 5, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa M. Allison, LRPC chair