

**Enrollment/Forecasts Demographics Subcommittee Meeting
of the Long Range Educational Facilities Planning Work Group
Meeting #3
City Hall, 301 King Street
Wednesday, September 11, 2013 – 8:00am
Meeting Summary**

Meeting notes are recorded by City Staff to provide a written record of principal items of discussion, key comments, decisions of the Work Group, and comments from the public. They are not intended to be a verbatim transcription of the meeting.

Meeting Attendees

Subcommittee Members

Herb Berg
Ken Billingsley
Yvonne Folkerts
Chris Hartman

Members not in attendance

Justin Wilson

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS)

Bill Finn
Laurel Hammig

City of Alexandria

Steve Chozick
Ron Kagawa
Pat Mann
Ryan Price
Katherine Carraway

Community Members

James Durham
Amy Thomas
Jon Smoot

Welcome and Introductions

Steve Chozick, Division Chief, GIS, welcomed attendees and gave an overview of the meeting goals.

Summary of Findings and Research Process

Mr. Chozick began the [presentation](#) by 1) reviewing the role of the subcommittee, which includes examining the details of the forecasting elements proposed in the work plan; collaborating on the development of a short-term and long-term enrollment forecast; and reporting results to the Long-Range Educational Facilities Plan workgroup as a whole; and 2) summarizing the subcommittee's accomplishments to date as they relate to the following research elements: births; capture rates; cohort survival; and student generation.

New Student Generation by Home Sales

Mr. Chozick turned the meeting over to Ryan Price, Senior Planning Technician, Land Use Services, who shared findings from [a comparison of new home sales to new student generation](#). Mr. Price investigated the possibility that there is a strong correlation between real estate sales transactions and new students to ACPS (by enrollment address). Data from 3 school years indicate that home sales are not a large generator of new students; however, many of the transactions may include families with children not yet of school age who could possibly enroll in ACPS as they age if the families decide to stay in Alexandria. Mr. Price also mentioned that most new students are enrolling in the City's western region, but most home sales occurred in the eastern region in recent years.

The group discussed the potential relationships between enrollment and rental housing vs. home sales. Chris Hartman suggested that the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) may have a connection with some larger rental unit companies who could provide useful data to the group. Ken Billingsley asked what proportion of the student body lives in rental units – staff will provide that information.

Market Affordability of Housing Stock

Pat Mann, Urban Planner, Planning and Zoning, presented information on his [analysis of affordability as a factor in student generation for market-rate housing](#). All types of housing were included in the analysis. Findings showed that subsidized and income-limited family housing has the highest student generation rate of all housing; and for market-rate units, ownership units with lowest prices and rental units with the lowest rents have the highest student generation within each class of housing. The data indicate that future student generation may depend in part on changes in the affordability of the city's housing stock over time.

The group discussed and asked for clarification regarding Mr. Mann's supposition that certain types of housing units will generate more students as they age. Mr. Chozick explained that the assumption is that units will generate more students as they age, but analysis will continue for accuracy.

Cohort Survival by Student

Laurel Hammig, Facilities Planner/GIS Specialist, ACPS, presented information collected by tracking [cohort survival by individual student](#).

The analysis was based on 5 years of available data and looked at 4 factors:

1. Student is *new* to ACPS.
2. Student was previously being served in a different ACPS school (Transferred *IN*).
(The term *transfer* does not necessarily represent a formal transfer. The student may have moved within the City.)
3. Student *left* ACPS.
4. Student is being served in a different ACPS school for the following school year (Transferred *OUT*).

The data collected suggests that as students age, new student transfers decrease; and the number of students who leave ACPS is larger than the number entering. First grade, however, shows a significant increase in new students – something that will be monitored since other jurisdictions have shown an increase between K and 1st, even though ACPS historically has not. The numbers of students in 8th and 9th grade will also be monitored, as they also show increases. The data also indicates that most mobility occurs in the western region of the City.

Ms. Hammig explained that this analysis is an initial attempt to track students individually and will continue the research, including the effects of Modified School Enrollment (MOE) on transfers.

Amy Thomas, community member, asked if part of the goal of this subcommittee is to determine the future of new school facilities as they relate to project growth in the city – where they will be built or which existing schools will be renovated. For example, when demolition/reconstruction near William Ramsay and John Adams Elementary Schools, will the data collected by this subcommittee reflect that potential enrollment?

Mr. Chozick and Ms. Hammig confirmed that one of the goals of this subcommittee is to provide data that reflects the potential student growth in that area. They explained that this committee addresses enrollment numbers only, but that the Work Group as a whole has two other subcommittees which address facilities and educational specifications.

As a follow up, Jim Durham, community member, asked for clarification regarding new data to be presented in November since the impact of development near Beauregard Avenue is already reflected in staff's data.

Mr. Chozick explained that to date staff has presented a variety of snapshots of information that may ultimately impact the forecast proposed by this group; however, the subcommittee has yet to pull all data together to develop a forecast scenario. The current subcommittee timeline includes a review of the short-term forecast in November since staff will receive current school year enrollment data in mid-October.

Subcommittee work plan discussion

Mr. Chozick continued the meeting with a review of current and future research items for this subcommittee.

The group decided to change the wording in the [work plan matrix](#) concerning student generation related to change in housing affordability to add “Does the age of the unit affect the data?”; and to possibly look at national trends data while investigating household profiles of ACPS students.

Upcoming meetings

- Next *subcommittee* meeting mid- to late October – will include possible scenarios
- Larger *work group* meeting – early November

Meeting Handouts

[Agenda](#)

[ACPS Enrollment Forecasting Research Plan Matrix](#)

[New Student Address vs. Home Sale Address Analysis](#)

[Affordability as a Factor in Student Generation for Market-Rate Housing](#)

[Cohort Survival by Individual](#)