



Final Report

May 2015



Districtwide Facility Study

Pennsylvania Economy League, Central PA Division
Thompson Associates Architects and Planners

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1. Districtwide Enrollment Summary

Methacton School District

The Pennsylvania Economy League Central PA Division (PEL) conducted the *Analysis of Demographics and Housing and Related Activity and Projections of Public School Enrollments in the Methacton School District 2014-15*, dated November 4 2014. PEL documented their analysis in a separate volume from this report.

Projected Enrollment Summary:

PEL's demographic analysis features a 10-year enrollment projection by grade level. PEL summarizes the 10-year enrollment projection for the Methacton School District aggregated by the school district's current grade configuration:

- Kindergarten to 4th grade elementary school
- 5th and 6th grade upper elementary school
- 7th and 8th grade intermediate school
- 9th to 12th grade high school

Table 5-12
METHACTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Projected Total Enrollments by Grade
2014-15 to 2019-20

<u>School Year</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	Total <u>K-4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	Total <u>5-6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	Total <u>7-8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	Total <u>9-12</u>	Total <u>K-12</u>
2014-15 (actual)	317	340	349	356	371	1,733	432	370	802	370	407	777	404	422	404	432	1,662	4,974
2015-16	283	383	346	349	360	1,721	386	426	812	367	375	742	407	405	420	413	1,645	4,920
2016-17	297	342	390	346	353	1,728	375	381	756	422	372	794	375	409	403	429	1,616	4,894
2017-18	254	359	349	391	350	1,703	367	370	737	377	428	805	372	376	407	412	1,567	4,812
2018-19	284	307	366	349	395	1,701	364	362	726	367	382	749	428	373	374	416	1,591	4,767
2019-20	269	343	313	366	353	1,644	411	359	770	359	372	731	382	430	371	382	1,565	4,710
Pupil Change 2014-15 to 2019-20	-48	3	-36	10	-18	-89	-21	-11	-32	-11	-35	-46	-22	8	-33	-50	-97	-264
Percent Change 2014-15 to 2019-20	-15.1	0.9	-10.3	2.8	-4.9	-5.1	-4.9	-3.0	-4.0	-3.0	-8.6	-5.9	-5.4	1.9	-8.2	-11.6	-5.8	-5.3

Table 5-18
METHACTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Extended Total Enrollment Projections by Grade Based on Births Fixed at 292
 2019-20 to 2024-25

<u>School Year</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Total K-4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Total 5-6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Total 7-8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Total 9-12</u>	<u>Total K-12</u>
2019-20	269	343	313	366	353	1,644	411	359	770	359	372	731	382	430	371	382	1,565	4,710
2020-21	269	325	350	313	370	1,627	367	406	773	356	364	720	372	383	428	379	1,562	4,682
2021-22	269	325	331	350	316	1,591	385	362	747	402	361	763	364	373	381	437	1,555	4,656
2022-23	269	325	331	331	354	1,610	329	380	709	359	408	767	361	365	371	389	1,486	4,572
2023-24	269	325	331	331	334	1,590	368	325	693	376	364	740	408	362	363	379	1,512	4,535
2024-25	269	325	331	331	334	1,590	348	363	711	322	381	703	364	410	360	371	1,505	4,509
Pupil Change																		
2019-20 to																		
2024-25	-	-18	18	-35	-19	-54	-63	4	-59	-37	9	-28	-18	-20	-11	-11	-60	-201
Percent Change																		
2019-20 to																		
2024-25	-	-5.2	5.8	-9.6	-5.4	-3.3	-15.3	1.1	-7.7	-10.3	2.4	-3.8	-4.7	-4.7	-3.0	-2.9	-3.8	-4.3
Pupil Change																		
2014-15 to																		
2024-25	-48	-15	-18	-25	-37	-143	-84	-7	-91	-48	-26	-74	-40	-12	-44	-61	-157	-465
Percent Change																		
2014-15 to																		
2024-25	-15.1	-4.4	-5.2	-7.0	-10.0	-8.3	-19.4	-1.9	-11.3	-13.0	-6.4	-9.5	-9.9	-2.8	-10.9	-14.1	-9.4	-9.3

2. School Capacity Summary

Methacton School District

Thompson Associates Architects and Planners conducted educational assessments for each of the Methacton schools, beginning June 2 2014 and spanning over the 2013-14 and the current 2014-15 school year. Since the 2013-14 school year, several Methacton schools adjusted the number of sections offered to suit changing student enrollment. As a result, the number of classrooms utilized in each school continues to change over time to reflect current enrollment and student needs. Find the details of these educational assessments, including a school student capacity analysis for each school, in the following numbered tab sections, below:

6. Arrowhead Elementary School
7. Audubon Elementary School
8. Eagleville Elementary School
9. Woodland Elementary School
10. Worcester Elementary School
11. Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6
12. Arcola Intermediate School 7-8
13. Methacton High School

School Capacity Analysis Summary:

Thompson Associates Architects and Planners conducted an educational assessment for each of the Methacton School District schools, including a school capacity analysis. We summarize the School Capacity Analysis, below:

<i>Grade Levels:</i>	<i>School Capacity:</i>	<i>Remarks:</i>
K to 4 th Grade	2225	See Table 2.2
5 th and 6 th Grade	1025	See Table 11.1
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Table 12.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1952	See Table 13.1
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>	<i>6307</i>	

Table 2.1 - District-wide School Capacity Summary

K to 4 Elementary School Capacity Summary:

Methacton School District offers grades K to 4 in five existing elementary schools. We conducted on-site observations of each of the five existing K to 4 elementary schools. School capacity is calculated based on student teacher ratios and the number of available classrooms. Methacton School District restricts student to teacher ratio to 30 maximum, but targets 22 to 25, where possible. Current practice consistently achieves a ratio of less than 25 students per teacher. We summarize our 2225-student school capacity analysis by grade for all five K to 4 elementary schools in Table 2.2, below. We provide a narrative description of the educational analysis for each of these five K to 4 elementary schools in Tabs 6 through 10.

	<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>School:</i>						
Arrowhead ES	100	75	75	75	75	400
Audubon ES	100	100	100	100	100	500
Eagleville ES	100	100	75	100	75	450
Woodland ES	100	75	75	75	75	400
Worcester ES	100	75	100	100	100	475
K to 4 Totals	500	425	425	450	425	2225

Table 2.2 - Kindergarten to 4th Grade Elementary School Capacity Summary

Thompson Associates evaluated spatial requirements for pupil support services, school-by-school, including special education services and special programming. We determined, in consultation with District Administrators, that four to seven full-size classrooms would be appropriate space dedicated to special education and pupil support services for a District elementary school, based on current student needs. As a result of this analysis, we determined that each of the five elementary schools could operate four sections per grade at a maximum of 25 students per section, for a total elementary capacity of 2500 students, District-wide.

3. Enrollment vs School Capacity:

Methacton School District

Current 2014-15 Enrollment versus School Capacity:

We compared four grade-level groupings and summarized enrollment versus capacity as follows:

	<i>Current 2014-15 Enrollment</i>	<i>School Capacity</i>	<i>Occupancy Percentage</i>	<i>Student Excess (Deficit) Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Levels:</i>	<i>Based on 10.31.2014 PDE Report</i>			
K to 4	1733	2225	77.9%	492
5 to 6	802	1025	78.2%	223
7 to 8	777	1105	70.3%	328
9 to 12	1662	1952	85.1%	290

Figure 3.1 - Current 2014-15 Enrollment vs Student Capacity

Grades K to 4 School Capacity Breakdown: K to 4 current enrollment (1733 students) falls below student capacity (2225 students). Excess capacity (492 students) is spread throughout the Methacton School District five existing attendance areas.

	<i>Current 2014-15 Enrollment</i>	<i>School Capacity</i>	<i>Occupancy Percentage</i>	<i>Student Excess (Deficit) Capacity</i>
<i>School:</i>	<i>Based on 12.13.2014 Update</i>			
Arrowhead ES	295	400	73.8%	105
Audubon ES	433	500	86.6%	67
Eagleville ES	356	450	79.1%	94
Woodland ES	299	400	74.8%	101
Worcester ES	367	475	77.3%	108
K to 4 Totals		2225		

Figure 3.2 - Breakdown of Enrollment and School Capacity by Elementary School

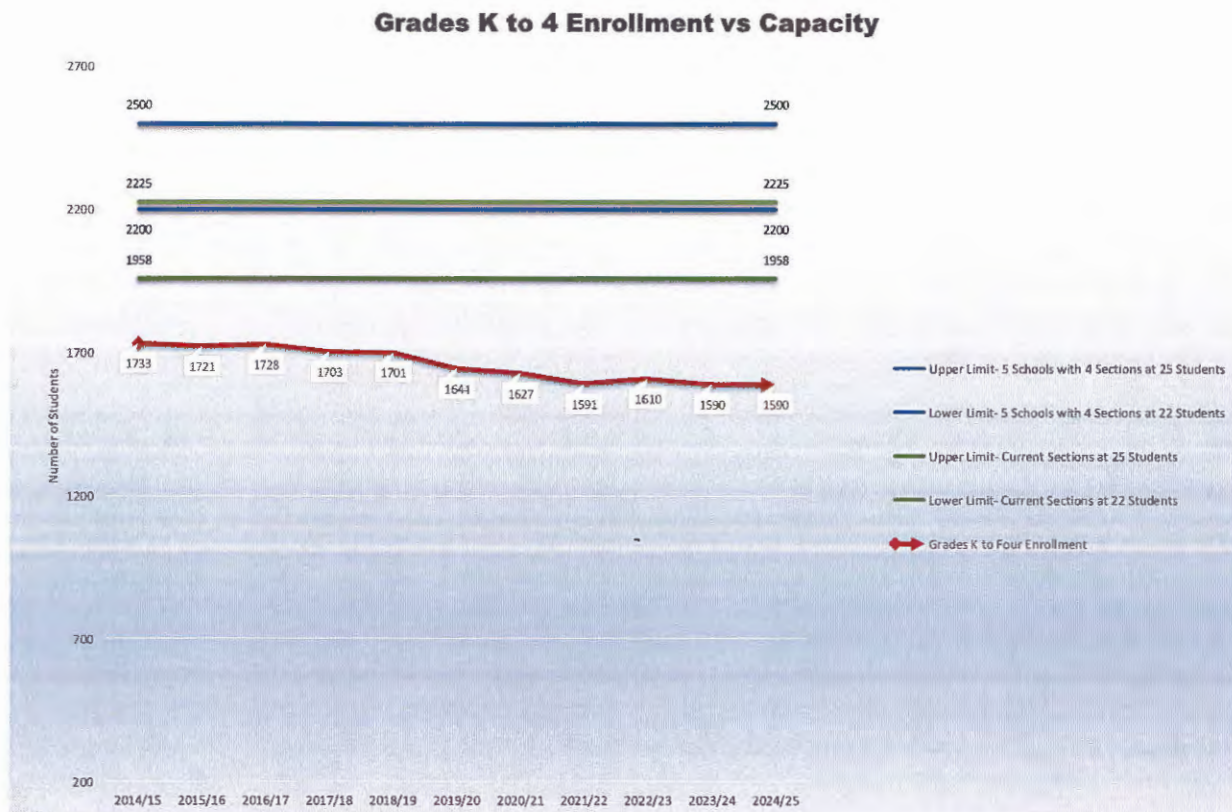


Figure 3.3 - Grades K to 4 Enrollment vs Capacity

Figure 3.3 compares current and projected enrollment for grades K to 4 District-wide to school capacity (identified in Figure 3.2 as 2225 students). Methacton School District strives to maintain lower class sizes (22 vs 25 students per section). The current number of elementary sections at 22 students per section totals 1958 students. Figure 3.3 illustrates that excess student capacity increases modestly over the next 10 years, at 22 students per section.

We assessed each of the five existing elementary schools. Each of these five could support four sections per grade level, with sufficient remaining classrooms for pupil support services and special education services offered in current District programs. Four sections per grade at five elementary school increases the total District K to 4 capacity from 2225 to 2500 students (also illustrated in Figure 3.3).

Consider consolidating to eliminate this excess capacity. Potential cost savings from consolidation, discontinuing the use of one or more existing elementary schools, would require shifting of attendance area lines to distribute enrollment evenly among four elementary schools.

Fifth Grade School Capacity Analysis: Methacton School District utilizes a modified team teaching approach at their Skyview Upper Elementary School for grades 5 and 6. Fifth grade features six teams of three sections. Figure 3.4 illustrates the relationship of projected grade five enrollment to six teams of three sections (18 upper elementary sections). Methacton School District strives to maintain lower class sizes (22 vs 25 students per section). Eighteen elementary sections at 22 students per section totals 396 students; at 25 totals 450 students.

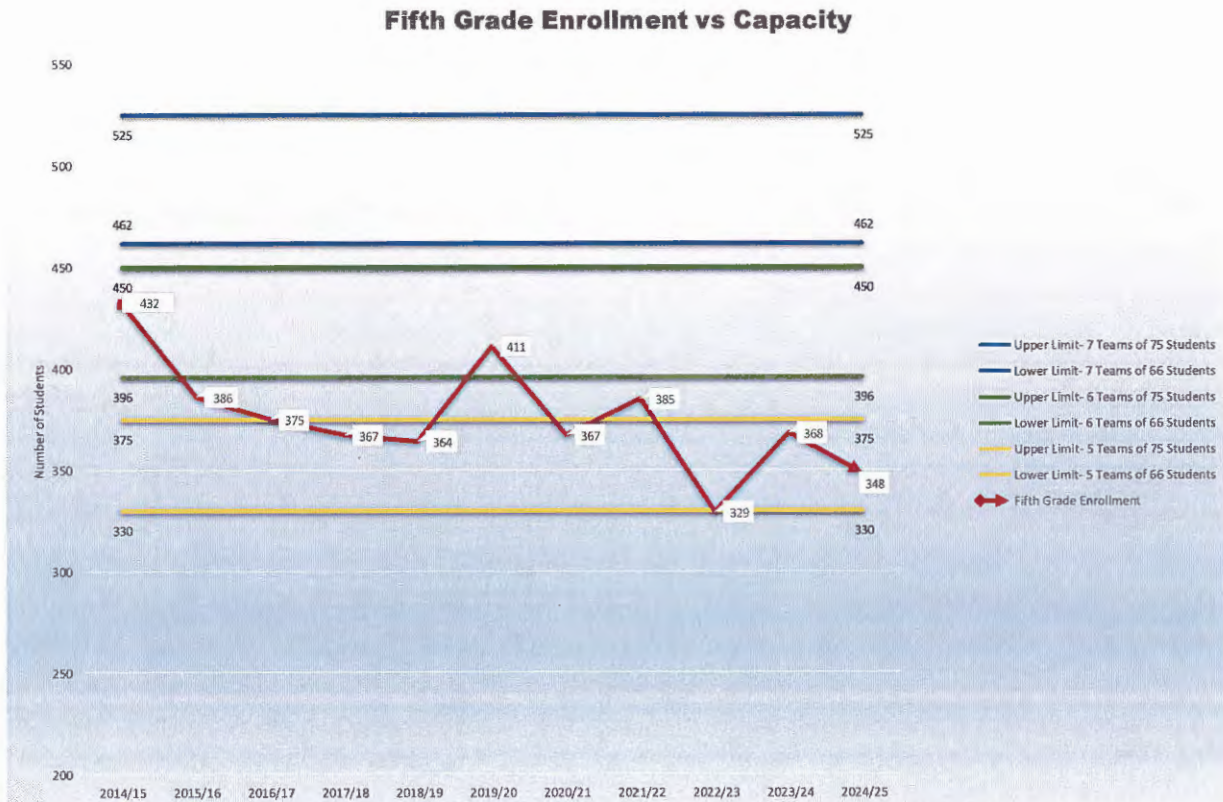


Figure 3.4 – Fifth Grade Enrollment vs Capacity

Figure 3.4 illustrates a projected declining fifth grade enrollment trend. Figure 3.4 also illustrates the effect of reducing Skyview from six teams of three sections to five teams of three sections (15 upper elementary sections). Fifteen elementary sections at 22 students per section totals 330 students; at 25 totals 375 students. Consider reducing to five teams of three sections during years when fifth grade enrollment dips reliably below 375 students.

Based on our assessment, Skyview Upper Elementary School could easily support a seventh upper elementary school team of three sections, with sufficient remaining classrooms for pupil support services and special education services offered in current District programs. Seven

teams of three sections increases fifth grade capacity from 450 to 525 students (also illustrated in Figure 3.4). There is no foreseeable need for a seventh team of three sections for fifth grade students.

Figure 3.4 illustrates that the current enrollment fits into the current fifth grade modified team teaching configuration, which features 6 teams of three sections each. The 129-student range between 18 sections at 22 students per section (396 students) and 21 sections at 25 students per section (525 students) illustrates that excess capacity on the first floor of Skyview Upper Elementary School could be better-utilized.

Sixth Grade School Capacity Analysis: Sixth grade features four teams of four sections. Figure 3.5 illustrates the relationship of projected grade six enrollment to four teams of four sections (16 upper elementary sections). Methacton School District strives to maintain lower class sizes (22 vs 25 students per section). Sixteen elementary sections at 22 students per section totals 352 students; at 25 totals 400 students.

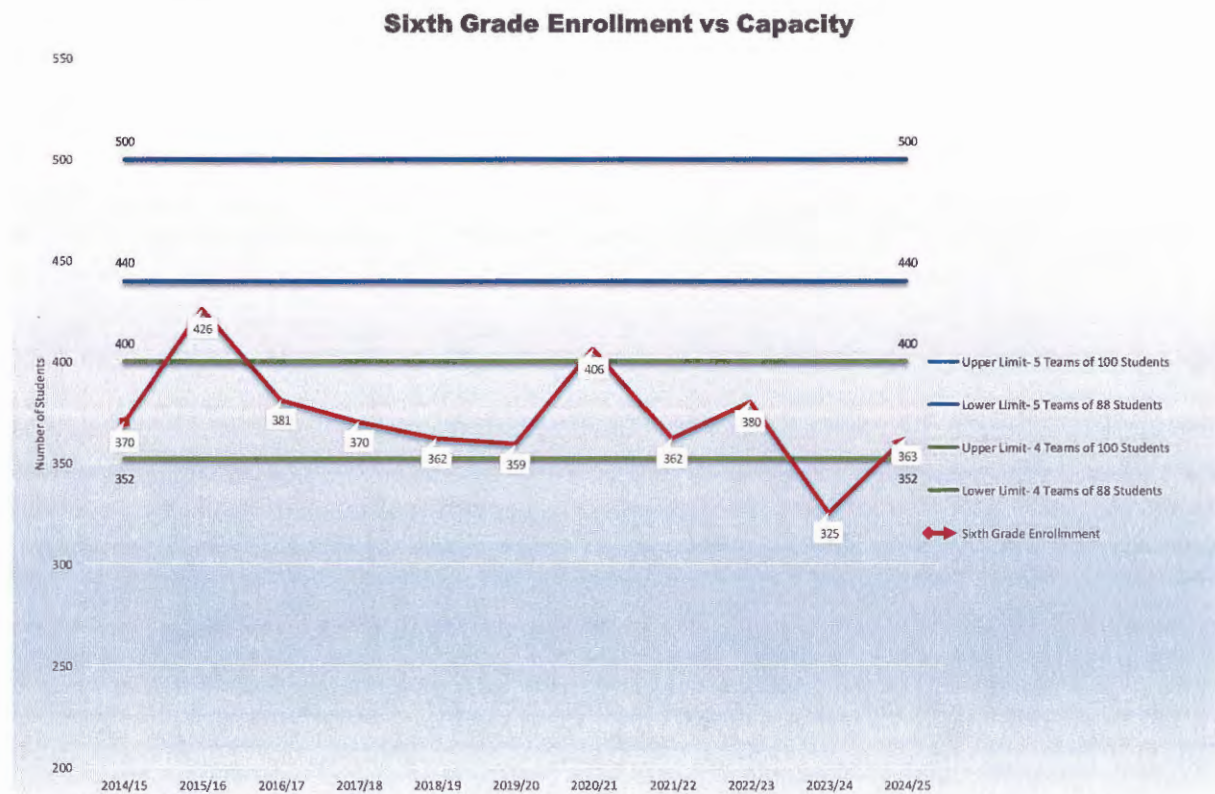


Figure 3.5 – Sixth Grade Enrollment vs Capacity

Figure 3.5 illustrates a projected declining sixth grade enrollment trend. It is clear from Figure 3.5 that reducing Skyview below four teams of four sections would not be feasible.

Based on our assessment, Skyview Upper Elementary School's second floor could support a fifth team of four sections, with sufficient remaining classrooms for pupil support services and special education services offered in current District programs. Four teams of four sections increases sixth grade capacity from 400 to 500 students (also illustrated in Figure 3.5). There is no foreseeable need for a fifth team of four sections for sixth grade students.

Figure 3.5 illustrates that the current and projected enrollment closely correlates to the current sixth grade modified team teaching configuration. The 148-students range between 16 sections at 22 students per section (352 students) and 20 sections at 25 students per section (500 students) illustrates excess capacity on the second floor of Skyview Upper Elementary School that could be better-utilized.

Combined Fifth and Sixth Grade School Capacity Analysis: We assessed the total capacity for 5th and 6th grades at Skyview Upper Elementary School (see the summary table in Figure 3.1) at 1025 students. 1025 students includes 20 sections at sixth grade and 21 sections at fifth grade (41 sections, total). Methacton School District currently utilizes 34 sections (18 sections at fifth grade and 16 sections at sixth grade).

Methacton School District strives to maintain lower class sizes (22 vs 25 students per section). Thirty-four current upper elementary sections at 22 students per section totals 748 students. Forty-one upper elementary sections at 25 students per section totals 1025 students. Figure 3.6 illustrates the relationship of projected enrollment of 5th and 6th grades to minimum and maximum student capacity.

Combined Fifth and Sixth Grade Enrollment vs Capacity

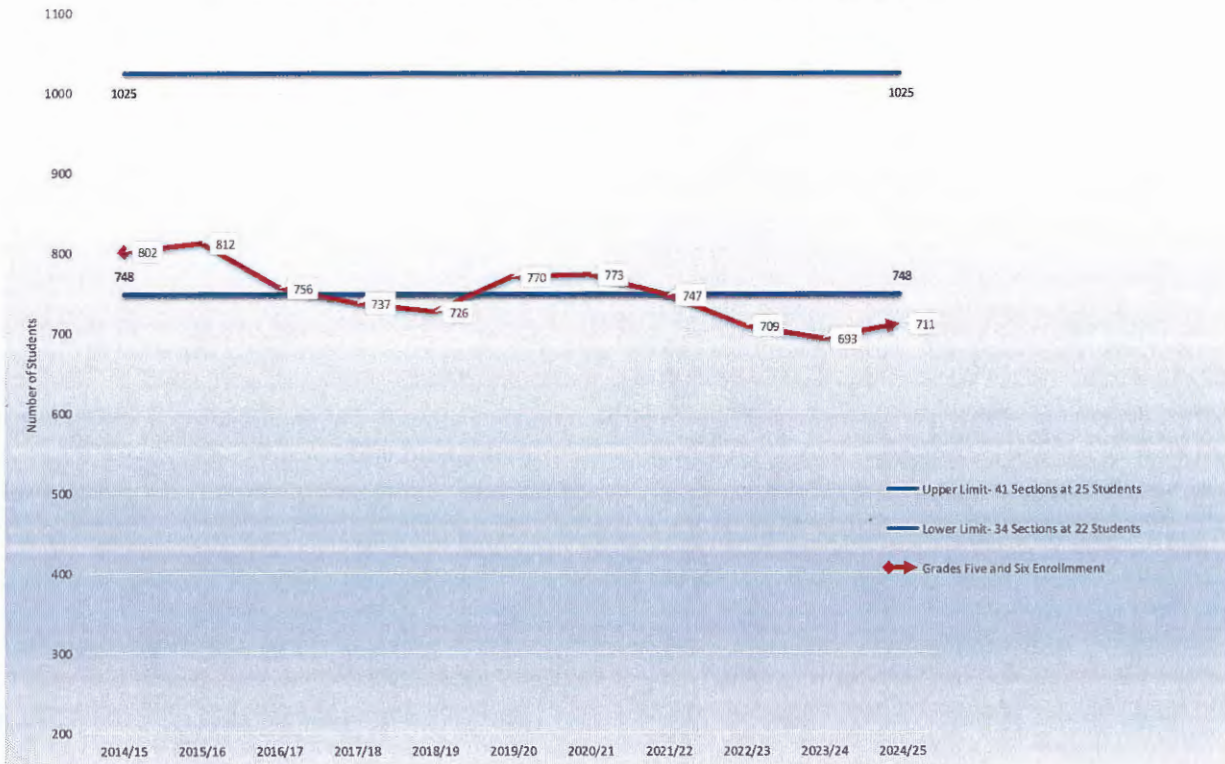


Figure 3.6 – Combined Fifth and Sixth Grade Enrollment vs Capacity

Figure 3.6 illustrates the current and projected enrollment closely correlates to the current fifth and sixth grade modified team teaching configuration. The 277-student range between 34 sections at 22 students per section (748 students) and 41 sections at 25 students per section (1025 students) illustrates excess Skyview capacity that could be better-utilized.

We note that Figures 3.4 and 3.5 illustrate that this 277-student excess school capacity is split between the first and second floors. Methacton School District operates fifth grade on a different bell schedule than sixth grade. As a result, it would be difficult to capture all of this excess capacity in one function.

Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment versus School Capacity:

Fifth-year enrollment projections are based on actual birth data applying observed trends in cohort survival of individual age groupings. We compared the same four grade-level groupings:

	<i>Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment</i>	<i>School Capacity</i>	<i>Occupancy Percentage</i>	<i>Student Excess (Deficit) Capacity</i>
Grade Levels:				
K to 4	1644	2225	73.9%	581
5 to 6	770	1025	75.1%	255
7 to 8	731	1105	66.2%	374
9 to 12	1565	1952	80.2%	387

Figure 3.7 – Fifth-year Enrollment vs Capacity

Comparing Current 2014-15 Enrollment to Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment: Fifth-year 2019-20 enrollment projections show a modest decline in K to 4 Elementary School enrollment; from the current (1733 students) to fifth-year (1644 student; a decline of 89 students and a loss of 5.1% in elementary school District-wide). The other three grade-level groupings: 5 to 6, 7 to 8 and 9 to 12 show a similar modest decline during this five-year period:

	<i>Current 2014-15 Enrollment</i>	<i>Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment</i>	<i>Increase (Decline) in Student Enrollment</i>	<i>Enrollment Increase (Decline) Percentage</i>
Grade Levels:				
K to 4	1733	1644	(89)	(5.1%)
5 to 6	802	770	(32)	(4.0%)
7 to 8	777	731	(46)	(5.9%)
9 to 12	1662	1565	(97)	(5.8%)

Figure 3.8 – Current Enrollment vs Fifth-year Enrollment

Tenth-year 2024-25 Enrollment versus School Capacity Analysis:

Tenth-year enrollment projections are based on a combination of *actual* birth data (for secondary grades) and *estimated* birth data (for elementary grades) applying observed trends in cohort survival of individual age groupings. We compared the same four grade-level groupings:

	<i>Tenth-year 2024-25 Enrollment</i>	<i>School Capacity</i>	<i>Occupancy Percentage</i>	<i>Student Excess (Deficit) Capacity</i>
Grade Levels:				
K to 4	1590	2225	71.5%	635
5 to 6	711	1025	69.4%	314
7 to 8	703	1105	63.6%	402
9 to 12	1505	1952	77.1%	447

Figure 3.9 – Tenth-year Enrollment vs Capacity

Comparing Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment to Tenth-year 2024-25 Enrollment: K to 4 Elementary School enrollment projections continue a modest decline through tenth-year 2024-25. Enrollment projections for Skyview Upper Elementary School (grades 5 to 6) and Arcola Intermediate School (grades 7 to 8) and Methacton High School (grades 9 to 12) continue a similar modest decline between fifth-year 2019-20 and tenth-year 2024-25.

	<i>Fifth-year 2019-20 Enrollment</i>	<i>Tenth-year 2024-25 Enrollment</i>	<i>Increase (Decline) in Student Enrollment</i>	<i>Enrollment Increase (Decline) Percentage</i>
Grade Levels:				
K to 4	1644	1590	(54)	(3.3%)
5 to 6	770	711	(59)	(7.7%)
7 to 8	731	703	(28)	(3.8%)
9 to 12	1565	1505	(60)	(3.8%)

Figure 3.10 – Fifth-year Enrollment vs Tenth-year Enrollment

4. Facility Condition: Arrowhead Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Condition Survey Summary Form

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Arrowhead Elementary School
 Building Location: 232 Level Rd, Collegeville PA 19426
 GSF: 55,000 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry bearing walls
 Construction Year: 1975B (modular classrooms added later)
 Number of Stories: One



Building Exterior - 2014:

FX Roofs
 G/FX Walls – Masonry
 G Steps/Entrances
 FX Windows
 G/FX Doors/Hardware
 G/FX Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

G/F Floors
 G/F Walls
 G Ceilings
 G/FX Doors/Hardware
 NE Stairs
 G Painting & Caulking
 F Toilet partitions
 G Cubbies
 NE Elevator
 FX Modular classrooms

Plumbing – 2014:

F Fixtures
 F Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 G Parking Lot
 F Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 G Signage

HVAC – 2014:

F Boiler
 F/NE Air-conditioning
 G Distribution
 G Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 G Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

F Electrical Service
 G Telephone System
 G Computer Systems
 G Electrical Distribution
 G Wiring Devices
 G Interior Lighting
 G Exterior Lighting
 G Emergency Lighting
 G Fire Alarm
 G Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Replace hollow core doors and finishing hardware throughout
- Paint interiors throughout
- Replace ceiling tile throughout
- Replace educational casework throughout
- Replace HVAC throughout
- Replace / supplement exit signage
- Upgrade domestic water system throughout
- Replace plumbing fixtures throughout
- Replace toilet partitions throughout
- Replace certain parts of waste, vent and rainwater piping systems
- Renovate all classrooms toilet rooms
- Restore damaged masonry
- Replace roof
- Replace most exterior doors
- Replace windows throughout
- Replace window treatments
- Replace master clock / paging / intercom system
- Upgrade modular classrooms



Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- MEP/energy upgrades
- Upgrade plumbing fixtures to low-flow
- Upgrade roof insulation to meet current energy code
- Upgrade exterior door vestibules to meet current energy code

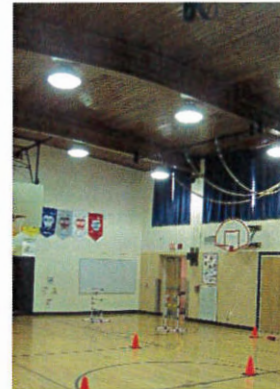
4. Facility Condition: Audubon Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Condition Survey Summary Form

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Audubon Elementary School
 Building Location: 2765 Egypt Rd, Eagleville PA 19403
 GSF: 56,600 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry bearing walls
 Construction Year: 1928B, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1979 and 1995 A/R
 Number of Stories: Two



Building Exterior - 2014:

G/F Roofs
 G/F Walls – Masonry
 G Steps/Entrances
 FX Windows
 FX Doors/Hardware
 FX Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

G Floors
 G Walls
 F Ceilings
 FX Doors/Hardware
 G Stairs
 G Painting & Caulking
 F Toilet partitions
 G Cubbies
 G Elevator

Plumbing – 2014:

F Fixtures
 G Domestic Hot Water
 F Sanitary Sewer
 F Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 G Parking Lot
 F Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 G Signage

HVAC – 2014:

F Boiler
 F/NE Air-conditioning
 F Distribution
 G Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 G Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

F Electrical Service
 F Telephone System
 G Computer Systems
 F Electrical Distribution
 F Wiring Devices
 F Interior Lighting
 F Exterior Lighting
 F Emergency Lighting
 F Fire Alarm
 G Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Replace all floor coverings throughout
- Address possible floor tile asbestos issues
- Refinish gym floor
- Paint interiors throughout
- Replace ceiling tile throughout
- Renovate café interior
- Renovate library interiors – replace furniture and casework
- Renovate administration and health suite interiors
- Replace educational casework throughout
- Upgrade student cubbies
- Replace HVAC throughout
- Upgrade handrails and guards at all stairs
- Replace / supplement exit signage
- Upgrade domestic water system throughout
- Replace plumbing fixtures throughout
- Replace toilet partitions throughout
- Replace certain parts of waste, vent and rainwater piping systems
- Renovate all classrooms toilet rooms
- Replace roof
- Replace most exterior doors
- Replace windows throughout
- Replace window treatments
- Replace emergency generator
- Repair exterior soffit lighting
- Replace master clock / paging / intercom system

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- MEP/energy upgrades
- Upgrade plumbing fixtures to low-flow
- Upgrade roof insulation to meet current energy code
- Upgrade exterior door vestibules to meet current energy code

4. Facility Condition: Eagleville Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Survey Summary Form:

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Eagleville Elementary School
 Building Location: 125 summit Av, Eagleville PA 19403
 GSF: 66,190 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry load-bearing and steel frame
 Construction Year: 2001 B
 Number of Stories: Two



Building Exterior - 2014:

E/F Roofs
 E Walls – Masonry
 E Steps/Entrances
 E/F Windows
 E Doors/Hardware
 E/F Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

E Floors
 E Walls
 E Ceilings
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Stairs
 E Painting & Caulking
 E Student Cubbies
 E Elevator

Plumbing – 2014:

E Fixtures
 E Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 E Parking Lot
 G Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 E Signage

HVAC – 2014:

E Boiler
 E Air-conditioning
 E Distribution
 E Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 E Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

E Electrical Service
 E Telephone System
 E Computer Systems
 E Electrical Distribution
 E Wiring Devices
 E Interior Lighting
 E Exterior Lighting
 E Emergency Lighting
 E Fire Alarm
 E Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Repair roof over principal office and kindergarten classrooms
- Scrape and paint all galvanized steel lintels
- Repair leaks at library/media center windows
- Modify roof drains over library/media center to eliminate ponding
- Repair masonry at certain unit ventilator grilles

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- None identified



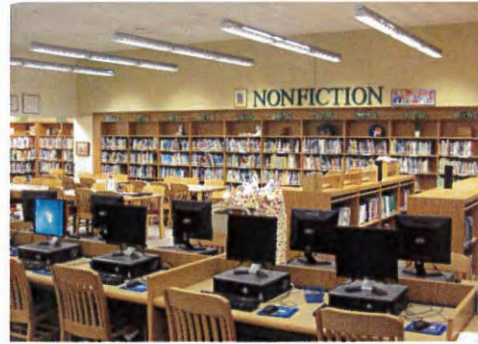
4. Facility Condition: Woodland Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Survey Summary Form:

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Woodland Elementary School
 Building Location: 2700 Woodland Av, Eagleville PA 19403
 GSF: 60,700 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry load-bearing and steel frame
 Construction Year: 1969 B and 2009 A/R
 Number of Stories: One



Building Exterior - 2014:

E Roofs
 E Walls – Masonry
 E Steps/Entrances
 E Windows
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

E Floors
 E Walls
 E Ceilings
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Stairs
 E Painting & Caulking
 E Student Cubbies

Plumbing – 2014:

E Fixtures
 E Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 E Parking Lot
 G Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 E Signage

HVAC – 2014:

E Boiler
 E Air-conditioning
 E Distribution
 E Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 E Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

E Electrical Service
 E Telephone System
 E Computer Systems
 E Electrical Distribution
 E Wiring Devices
 E Interior Lighting
 E Exterior Lighting
 E Emergency Lighting
 E Fire Alarm
 E Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Minor masonry restoration

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- None identified

Security Enhancements Projects:

- None identified



4. Facility Condition: Worcester Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Survey Summary Form:

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Worcester Elementary School
 Building Location: 3017 Skippack Pike, Lansdale PA 19446
 GSF: 67,000 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry load-bearing and steel frame
 Construction Year: 1997 B
 Number of Stories: Two



Building Exterior - 2014:

E Roofs
 E Walls – Masonry
 E Steps/Entrances
 E Windows
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

E Floors
 E Walls
 E Ceilings
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Stairs
 E Painting & Caulking
 E Student Cubbies

Plumbing – 2014:

E Fixtures
 E Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 E Parking Lot
 G Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 E Signage

HVAC – 2014:

E Boiler
 E Air-conditioning
 E Distribution
 E Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 E Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

E Electrical Service
 E Telephone System
 E Computer Systems
 E Electrical Distribution
 E Wiring Devices
 E Interior Lighting
 E Exterior Lighting
 E Emergency Lighting
 E Fire Alarm
 E Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- None identified

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- None identified

4. Facility Condition: Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6

Methacton School District

Building Survey Summary Form

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6
 Building Location: 4001B Eagleville Rd, Norristown PA 19403
 GSF: 338,980 sf (combined 5-6 and 7-8)
 Construction Type: Masonry load-bearing and steel frame
 Construction Year: 1971 B, 2009 A/R
 Number of Stories: Two



Building Exterior - 2014:

E Roofs
 E Walls – Masonry
 E Steps/Entrances
 E Windows
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Painting & Sealant

Building Interior – 2014:

E Floors
 E Walls
 E Ceilings
 E Doors/Hardware
 E Stairs
 E Painting & Caulking
 E Student lockers
 E Elevator

Plumbing – 2014:

E Fixtures
 E Domestic Hot Water
 E Sanitary Sewer
 E Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

E Sidewalks
 E Accessibility
 E Parking Lot
 E Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 E Signage

HVAC – 2014:

E Boiler
 E Air-conditioning
 E Distribution
 E Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

E Custodial Clo/Store
 E Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

E Electrical Service
 E Telephone System
 E Computer Systems
 E Electrical Distribution
 E Wiring Devices
 E Interior Lighting
 E Exterior Lighting
 E Emergency Lighting
 E Fire Alarm
 E Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- None identified

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- None identified



4. Facility Condition: Arcola Intermediate School 7-8

Methacton School District

Building Survey Summary Form:

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Arcola Intermediate School 7-8
 Building Location: 4001A, Eagleville Rd, Norristown PA 19403
 GSF: 338,980 sf (combined 5-6 and 7-8)
 Construction Type: Masonry load-bearing and steel frame
 Construction Year: 1971 B, 1992, 1999 and 2009 A/R (combined 5-6 and 7-8)
 Number of Stories: two



Building Exterior - 2014:

G Roofs
 G/F Walls – Masonry
 G Steps/Entrances
 G Windows
 G/FX Doors/Hardware
 G/F Painting & Sealant
 F Modular Classrooms

Building Interior – 2014:

G Floors
 G Walls
 G Ceilings
 G Doors/Hardware
 G Stairs
 G Painting & Caulking
 G Student lockers
 G Elevator

Plumbing – 2014:

G Fixtures
 G Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 G Parking Lot
 G Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 G Signage

HVAC – 2014:

G Boiler
 G Air-conditioning
 G Distribution
 G Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 G Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

G Electrical Service
 G Telephone System
 G Computer Systems
 FX Television studio
 G Electrical Distribution
 G Wiring Devices
 G Interior Lighting
 G Exterior Lighting
 G Emergency Lighting
 G Fire Alarm
 G Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Masonry restoration certain locations
- Sealant replacement certain locations

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- MEP/energy upgrades
- Upgrade plumbing fixtures to low-flow
- Upgrade roof insulation to meet current energy code
- Upgrade exterior door vestibules to meet current energy code



4. Facility Condition: Methacton High School

Methacton School District

Building Condition Survey Summary Form

General

Survey Date: June 2014
 Surveyor: James R Thompson AIA
 Building Name: Methacton High School
 Building Location: 1001 Kriebel Mill Rd, Norristown PA 19403
 GSF: 334,330 sf
 Construction Type: Masonry bearing walls and steel frame
 Construction Year: 1961B, 1997, 2000 and 2004 A/R
 Number of Stories: Two



Building Exterior - 2014:

E/G Roofs
 E/G Walls – Masonry
 E/G Steps/Entrances
 E/G Windows
 E/G Doors/Hardware
 E/G Painting & Sealant
 FX Modular classrooms

Building Interior – 2014:

E/G Floors
 E/G Walls
 E/G Ceilings
 E/G Doors/Hardware
 E/G Stairs
 E/G Painting & Caulking
 E/G Toilet partitions
 E/G Lockers
 E/G Elevators

Plumbing – 2014:

G Fixtures
 G Domestic Hot Water
 G Sanitary Sewer
 G Storm Water

Site/Landscaping – 2014:

G Sidewalks
 G Accessibility
 G Parking Lot
 G Fencing
 G Trees/Shrubs
 G Lawns
 G Signage

HVAC – 2014:

E Boiler
 G Air-conditioning
 G Distribution
 G Ventilation

Custodial – 2014:

G Custodial Clo/Store
 G Level of Cleanliness

Electrical – 2014:

E/G Electrical Service
 E/G Telephone System
 E/G Computer Systems
 E/G Electrical Distribution
 E/G Wiring Devices
 E/G Interior Lighting
 E/G Exterior Lighting
 E/G Emergency Lighting
 E/G Fire Alarm
 E/G Security System

Condition Codes:

E - Excellent	– Conditions generally at ‘like-new’ level; exemplary maintenance and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
G - Good	– Conditions generally at an acceptable level. Routine maintenance effort and appropriate funding required to maintain this level.
F - Fair	– Conditions at a minimally acceptable levels. Improvements involving greater than routine maintenance effort and additional funding required.
P - Poor	– Conditions below minimally acceptable levels. Conditions require substantial capital repair and funding.
X	– In addition to the condition code (E, G, F or P) X denotes that element/system is of original design/construction, vintage age and is approaching the end of its normal life expectancy. Improvements might be required in the near future.
NE	– Non-Existent

Building Deficiencies Listing:

- Modular classroom updates
- Masonry restoration
- Loading dock upgrades (near vacant woodshop)

Guaranteed Energy Savings Projects:

- MEP/energy upgrades
- Upgrade plumbing fixtures to low-flow
- Upgrade roof insulation to meet current energy code
- Upgrade exterior door vestibules to meet current energy code



5. Summary of District Wide Options

Methacton School District

Thompson Associates Architects and Planners presented a set of district-wide facility options for consideration by the Methacton School Board in Public Hearings on February 23rd and 25th 2015. Foremost in our analysis of options, we focus on Methacton students and their educational needs. We analyze other considerations, like excess school capacity (see Section 3 Enrollment vs Student Capacity), likely costs for future renovations (see Section 4 Facility Condition), and cost savings, in the context of supporting the best educational program possible. Declining Methacton enrollment over recent years, combined with projected continued slowly declining enrollment (see Section 1 District Enrollment Summary), led to our study of the location and extent of excess capacity by school.

Methacton's existing elementary schools: We rated all five existing schools: Arrowhead, Audubon, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, at 500 students for each elementary school. We rate the total elementary school capacity of Methacton's five existing elementary schools at 2500 students.

As enrollment in the five existing attendance areas declined historically (in the specific cases of Arrowhead and Woodland to currently below 300 students), a variable amount of excess capacity emerged by attendance area. Methacton School District could aggregate or shift this excess capacity by re-drawing attendance lines. Disadvantages of re-drawing attendance lines would include:

- Adding school location transitions for certain affected students
- Re-combining social groups: separating neighborhood friends and disrupting existing family support structures (e.g. carpooling groups)
- Inducing anxiety for students affected by the change

Possible benefits of re-drawing attendance area lines include:

- Consolidating current and projected K-4 enrollment into four attendance areas and four existing elementary schools for improved operating efficiencies and savings
- Shifting attendance area lines to balance enrollment among the existing five elementary schools and creating equitable space for future full-day kindergarten and/or leasable space for future privately-run preK or school-age child care programming
- Aggregating vacant space in identified schools and creating leasable space for compatible uses of space, or for District-wide administrative functions

Methacton's existing Skyview Upper Elementary School: is configured into grade-level houses with 5th grade on the first floor and 6th grade on the second floor. We rate the capacity

of the first floor at 525 students, based on the current 5th grade programming organized in multi-disciplinary teams. We rate the capacity of the second floor at 500 students, based on the current 6th grade programming organized in multi-disciplinary teams. The opportunity to better-utilize excess capacity is limited to approximately 100 students per floor.

Methacton's existing Arcola Intermediate School: is effectively separated from the adjoining Skyview Upper Elementary School by the shared auditorium, music suites, loading docks, building maintenance and food service / cafeterias. Like Skyview, Arcola is a two-story school with two grade levels: 7th and 8th grade District-wide. Unlike Skyview, Arcola was originally designed for departmental organization (for example, all science labs are clustered on the second floor). We rate the capacity of Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 at 1105 students. The opportunity to better-utilize excess capacity is limited to approximately 200-300 students throughout the Arcola Intermediate School.

Methacton High School: includes grades 9-12, District-wide. Because we rate the school capacity more closely to the actual enrollment than the other schools in the District, we did not propose Options that affected Methacton High School.

We explored District-wide facility options for elementary, upper elementary and intermediate students in four grade-level categories:

- K-4 (3 Options)
 - K-4 Option (1) – No Change (See Section 5.1)
 - K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead (See Section 5.2)
 - K-4 option (3) – Close Audubon (See Section 5.3)
- K-5 (2 Options)
 - K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th (See Section 5.4)
 - K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade (See Section 5.5)
- K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola (See Section 5.6)
- K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools (See Section 5.7)

K-4 (3 Options):

5.1 Summary of K-4 Option (1) – No Change:

The **K-4 Option (1) – No Change** provides a benchmark for comparison with the other six proposed Options. See Section 3 Enrollment vs School Capacity for a description of the current schools. **K-4 Option (1) – No Change** maintains the existing K-4 / 5-6 / 7-8 / 9-12 grade configuration. See **Section 5.1** for details.

K-4 Option (1) – No Change:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 academic programs
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Does not require grade re-configuration
- Maintains existing attendance areas

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in five elementary schools
- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Does not improve operational efficiency
- Significant capital improvements are needed in 3-5 years and 5-10 years

We do not recommend **K-4 Option (1) – No Change**, primarily because it does not generate savings for Methacton School District.

5.2 Summary of K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead:

The **K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead** scenario explores savings through discontinuing the use of one existing elementary school. See **Section 5.2** for details.

K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 program
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Saves annual operating costs
- Saves cost of major renovation at Arrowhead over the next 5 to 10 years
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Does not require grade re-configuration

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Significant capital improvements are needed at Audubon in the next 3-5 and 5-10 years
- Must re-draw attendance areas

We recommend **K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead** as our second choice, because it saves the cost of renovating Arrowhead Elementary School in a 5 to 10 year timeframe. Consolidating from five to four existing elementary schools generates significant operational efficiencies and reduces annual costs for Methacton School District. We prefer **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon** over this close Arrowhead option, for the following reasons:

- Arrowhead is geographically situated for less disruption district-wide when re-drawing attendance areas
- Arrowhead has 26 classrooms compared to Audubon's 23 classrooms allowing for more flexibility for future programming
- Arrowhead single-story construction and site is more conducive to future expansion/construction
- Arrowhead is located in a low traffic residential area
- Arrowhead facility at 44 years, has more useful life remaining

5.3 Summary of K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon:

The **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon** scenario explores savings through discontinuing the use of one existing elementary school. See **Section 5.3** for details.

K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 program
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Saves annual operating costs
- Saves cost of major renovation at Audubon over the next 5 to 10 years
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Does not require grade re-configuration

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Significant capital improvements are needed at Arrowhead in the next 3-5 years
- Must re-draw attendance areas

We recommend **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon**, as our first choice because it saves the cost of renovating Audubon Elementary School in a 5 to 10 year timeframe. Consolidating from five to four existing elementary schools generates significant operational efficiencies and reduces annual costs for Methacton School District. We prefer this Close Audubon option over K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead, for the following reasons:

- Audubon is in close proximity to newly renovated Woodland, which is currently underutilized
- Audubon is located on a main thoroughfare and is suitable for more immediate sale, relieving district of future operating costs
- Audubon was constructed in 1928, part of original structure remains and has had several fragmented renovations and additions since then
- Audubon site and building architecture is less conducive for future renovation
- Audubon’s multi-story, multi-level facility presents current and future accessibility issues
- Audubon is the highest cost per square foot building to operate in the District

K-5 (2 Options):

5.4 Summary of K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th:

The **K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th** restores the historic K-5 / 6-8 / 9-12 District-wide grade configuration. Re-incorporating 6th grade into Arcola Intermediate School requires splitting-up 6th grade with two multi-disciplinary 6th grade teams located at the Arcola end and two multi-disciplinary 6th grade teams located at the Skyview end. The remaining space in Skyview would be adapted to K-5 elementary school, with 7 sections per grades K-5. The three newest elementary schools: Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, can only fit 3 sections per grades K-5. See **Section 5.4** for details.

K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th:

Pros:

- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools

• **Cons:**

- Reverts to K-5 and 6-8 grade configurations
- Requires significant planning
- Educational model splits 6th grade (6-8 school)
- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Grade re-alignment
- Must re-draw attendance areas

We do not recommend **K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th**, because of intermixing of 6th grade among elementary and intermediate students, cumbersome planning process and construction costs for Methacton School District.

5.5 Summary of K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade:

The **K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade** scenario expands the three newest elementary schools from a 500-student to a 600-student capacity to accommodate 4 sections per grades K-5. Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester elementary Schools would require a 4-classroom addition to increase each school to a 600-student capacity. The cost of all three additions, estimated at 3 schools x \$1.5 million each = \$4.5 million. We anticipate that closing both Arrowhead and Audubon Elementary Schools would avoid the cost of major renovations at a total cost of \$20-24 million, over the next 5 to 10 years. See **Section 5.5** for details.

K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade:

Pros:

- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools
- Maintains all 6th grade in elementary setting

Cons:

- Requires significant curricular and programming realignment
- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Must re-draw attendance areas
- Skyview not equitable with remaining elementary schools

We do not recommend **K-5 option (2) – All 6th Grade**, because of the cumbersome planning process, the need for school additions at 3 elementary schools and construction costs for Methacton School District.

K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola:

5.6 Summary of K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola:

This scenario explores a change of grade configuration to capitalize on excess school capacity in the Skyview Upper Elementary School and Arcola Intermediate School. All of grades K-3 District-wide fit comfortably into the three newest: Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester Elementary Schools. Each of these three K-3 elementary schools feature excess capacity suitable for other uses (e.g. future full-day kindergarten). However, incorporating all of 4th grade, District-wide, into the Skyview / Arcola campus requires adapting the Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6, combined with the Arcola Intermediate School 7-8, by reorganizing and managing the Skyview / Arcola campus as a whole. See **Section 5.6** for details.

K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola:

Pros:

- Keeps the youngest students in their neighborhood schools
- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools
- Can be achieved without added construction

Cons:

- Splits grade level sections between floors and between Skyview and Arcola
- Divides 5 grades in 4 equal-sized spaces
- Divides 5 grades in 2 equal-sized lunchrooms
- Requires time to explore educational implications
- Traffic challenges on-campus
- Must re-draw attendance areas
- Introduces floaters and IPCs at Skyview and Arcola
- Shifts from pupil support services by team to pupil support services by grade level at Skyview and Arcola

We do not recommend **K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola**, because of its numerous adverse impacts on the Skyview / Arcola campus.

K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools:

5.7 Summary of K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools:

This scenario adapts Skyview Upper Elementary School and the three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, to **K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools**. We explored the K-6 grade configuration as a better fit in the three newest existing elementary schools than K-5. Adapting Skyview Upper Elementary Schools to 7 sections per grades K-6 serves the dual purpose of isolating elementary grades from the Arcola end of the campus and savings resulting from closing both Arrowhead and Audubon Elementary Schools. See **Section 5.7** for details.

K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools:

Pros:

- Fewer transitions for students
- Retains elementary concept for grades K-6
- Saves annual operation cost
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools

Cons:

- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Complex, two-year disruptive transition needed to reach configuration
- Skyview pupil support services not equitable with remaining elementary schools
- Requires time to explore educational implications
- Must re-draw attendance areas

We do not recommend **K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools** because of the cumbersome planning process, multi-year transition and construction costs for Methacton School District.

Other Options explored and rejected earlier in the process:

The **Early Childhood Center Scenario** adapts the existing Audubon Elementary School for all ½-day kindergarten sections, District-wide. This scenario frees approximately half of the existing classrooms in Audubon for possible lease to private preK or school-age child care programming. The remaining four existing elementary schools, Arrowhead, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, would each have 4 or 5 sections of grades 1-4. Each of these elementary schools would have excess capacity for possible lease to expand school-age child care. This scenario has costs without significant savings.

A **K-5 Option (3) – Close Arrowhead** or **K-5 Option (4) – Close Audubon** option would result in four remaining elementary schools with 3 sections each of grades K-5. **K-5 Option (3) or (4)** would include an adaptive use of Skyview, with 5 sections per grades K-5. The entire 6th grade District-wide could fit on the second floor of Skyview (not split between Skyview and Arcola). Neither **K-5 Option (3) or (4)** exhibit advantages over the similar **K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead** or **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon**.

Section 5.1 K-4 Option (1) No Change

Methacton School District

This **K-4 Option (1) - No Change** scenario provides a comparative benchmark for six other proposed Options. See Sections 6 through 13 for Educational Assessments of each of the existing Methacton Schools:

- 6. Arrowhead Elementary School
- 7. Audubon Elementary School
- 8. Eagleville Elementary School
- 9. Woodland Elementary School
- 10. Worcester Elementary School
- 11. Skyview Upper Elementary School
- 12. Arcola Intermediate School
- 13. Methacton High School

<i>Grade Levels:</i>	<i>School Capacity:</i>	<i>Remarks:</i>
K to 4 th Grade	2380	See Figure 5.2
5 th and 6 th Grade	1025	See Figure 11.1
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 12.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>	<i>6459</i>	

Figure 5.1 – K-4 Option (1) – No Change - School Capacity Summary

	<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>School:</i>						
Arrowhead ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Audubon ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Eagleview ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Woodland ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Worcester ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Classrooms	10	20	20	20	20	90
K to 4 Totals	440	440	500	500	500	2380

Figure 5.2 – K-4 Option (1) – No Change – Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Figures 5.1 and 5.2 repeat information found in Figures 2.1 and 2.2. Section 3. Enrollment vs Student Capacity provides a detailed analysis of current and projected enrollment vs student capacity for existing schools. As the following scenario pros and cons suggest, Methacton School District has the option to simply maintain the status quo.

K-4 Option (1) – No Change:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 academic programs
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Does not require grade re-configuration
- Maintains existing attendance areas

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in five elementary schools
- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Does not improve operational efficiency
- Significant capital improvements are needed in 3-5 years and 5-10 years

Section 5.2 K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead

Methacton School District

This **K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead** capitalizes on excess capacity already found in existing elementary schools. Each of the four elementary schools that remain, expand to four sections per grade level. This scenario consolidates five existing elementary schools to four, with an adjustment of attendance areas throughout the Methacton School District.

Grade Levels:	School Capacity:	Remarks:
K to 4 th Grade	1904	See Figure 5.4 below
5 th and 6 th Grade	1025	See Figure 11.1
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 12.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
Total School Capacity:	5953	

Figure 5.3 – K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead - School Capacity Summary

We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at four sections of 22 students, for each remaining elementary school. We rate 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades at four sections of 25 students.

	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	Total
School:						
Arrowhead ES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Audubon ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Eagleville ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Woodland ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Worcester ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Classrooms	8	16	16	16	16	72
K to 4 Totals	352	352	400	400	400	1904

Figure 5.4 –K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead - Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services

Over time, vacant classrooms in each of these schools have been adapted for use in a wide variety of pupil support services and special education services. Although there are no classrooms district-wide that currently sit ‘vacant,’ several classrooms in each building could be recovered for use as regular classrooms by relocating pupil support and/or special education related services into other instructional spaces. To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve five full-size classrooms for each of the

remaining elementary schools: Audubon, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester. These five classrooms per elementary school are not included in rated school capacity.

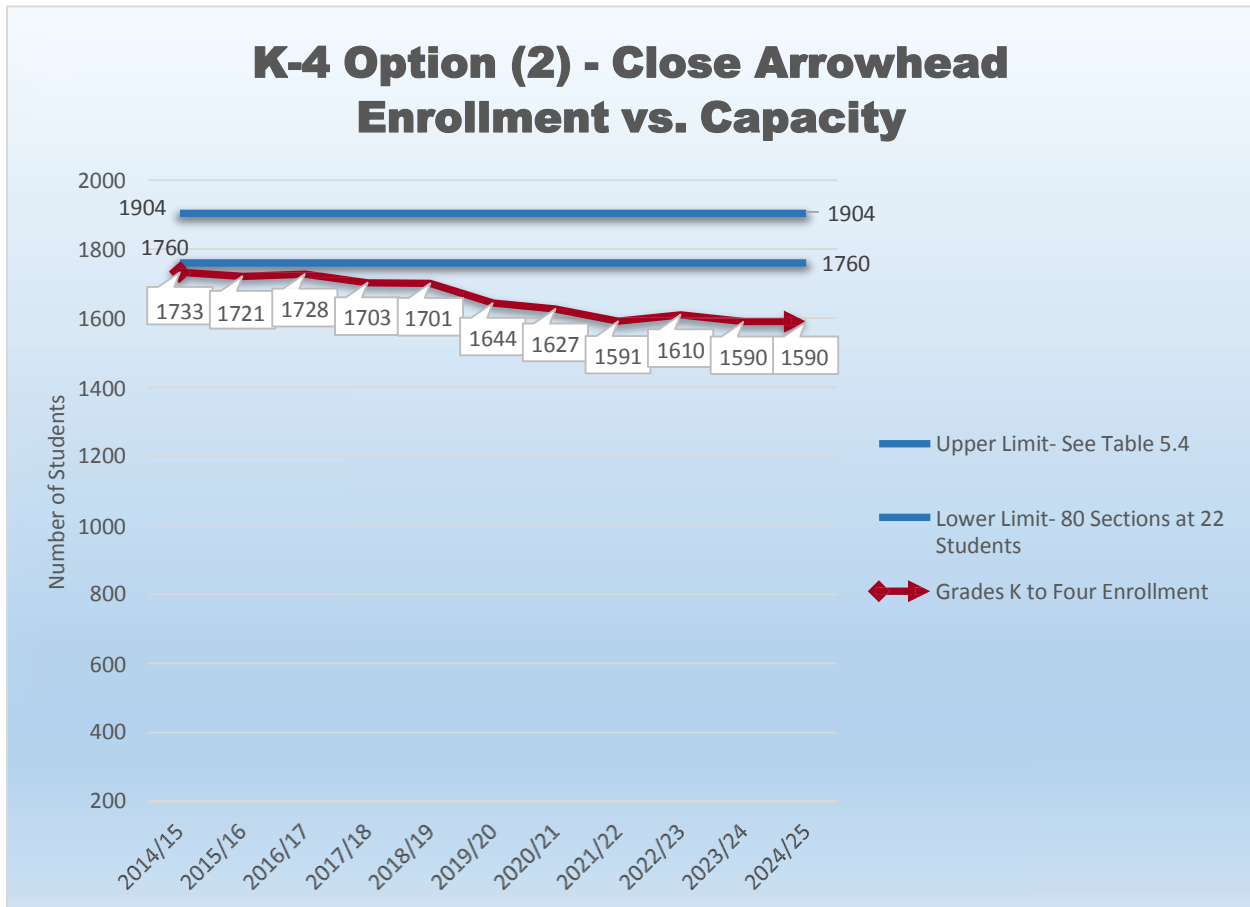


Figure 5.5 – K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead – Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansion:

Figure 5.5 illustrates that **K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead** provides a good fit of available capacity with projected enrollment. Projected (143 students) declines in K-4 enrollment over the next ten years provides a measure of excess capacity. The remaining four elementary schools feature five classrooms District-wide that have not been counted toward school capacity, nor are they required to maintain the current special education and pupil support services. The District could use these additional classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

In a five-to-ten-year timeframe, the Audubon Elementary School will require major renovations. At that time, the District should contemplate the elimination or replacement of the two existing Audubon modular classrooms. During the Audubon renovation planning process, the proposed

capacity of Audubon could be adjusted (up or down, through building additions or demolition) to suit future enrollment projection updates.

K-4 Option (2) – Close Arrowhead:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 program
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Saves annual operating costs
- Saves cost of major renovation at Arrowhead over the next 5 to 10 years
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Does not require grade re-configuration

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Significant capital improvements are needed at Audubon in the next 3-5 and 5-10 years
- Must re-draw attendance areas

Section 5.3 K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon

Methacton School District

This **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon** capitalizes on excess capacity already found in existing elementary schools. Each of the four elementary schools that remain expand to four sections of each grade level. This scenario consolidates five existing elementary schools to four, with an adjustment of attendance areas throughout the Methacton School District.

Grade Levels:	School Capacity:	Remarks:
K to 4 th Grade	1904	See Figure 5.7 below
5 th and 6 th Grade	1025	See Figure 11.1
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 12.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
Total School Capacity:	5983	

Figure 5.6 – K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon - School Capacity Summary

We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at four sections of 22 students, for each remaining elementary school. We rate 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades at four sections of 25 students.

	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	Total
School:						
Arrowhead ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Audubon ES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eagleville ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Woodland ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Worcester ES	88	88	100	100	100	476
Classrooms	8	16	16	16	16	72
K to 4 Totals	352	352	400	400	400	1904

Figure 5.7 –K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon - Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services

Over time, vacant classrooms in each of these schools have been adapted for use in a wide variety of pupil support services and special education services. Although there are no classrooms district-wide that currently sit ‘vacant’, several classrooms in each building might be recovered for use as regular classrooms by relocating pupil support services and/or special education related services into other instructional spaces. To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve five full-size classrooms for each of the

remaining elementary schools: Arrowhead, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester. These five classrooms per elementary school are not included in rated school capacity.

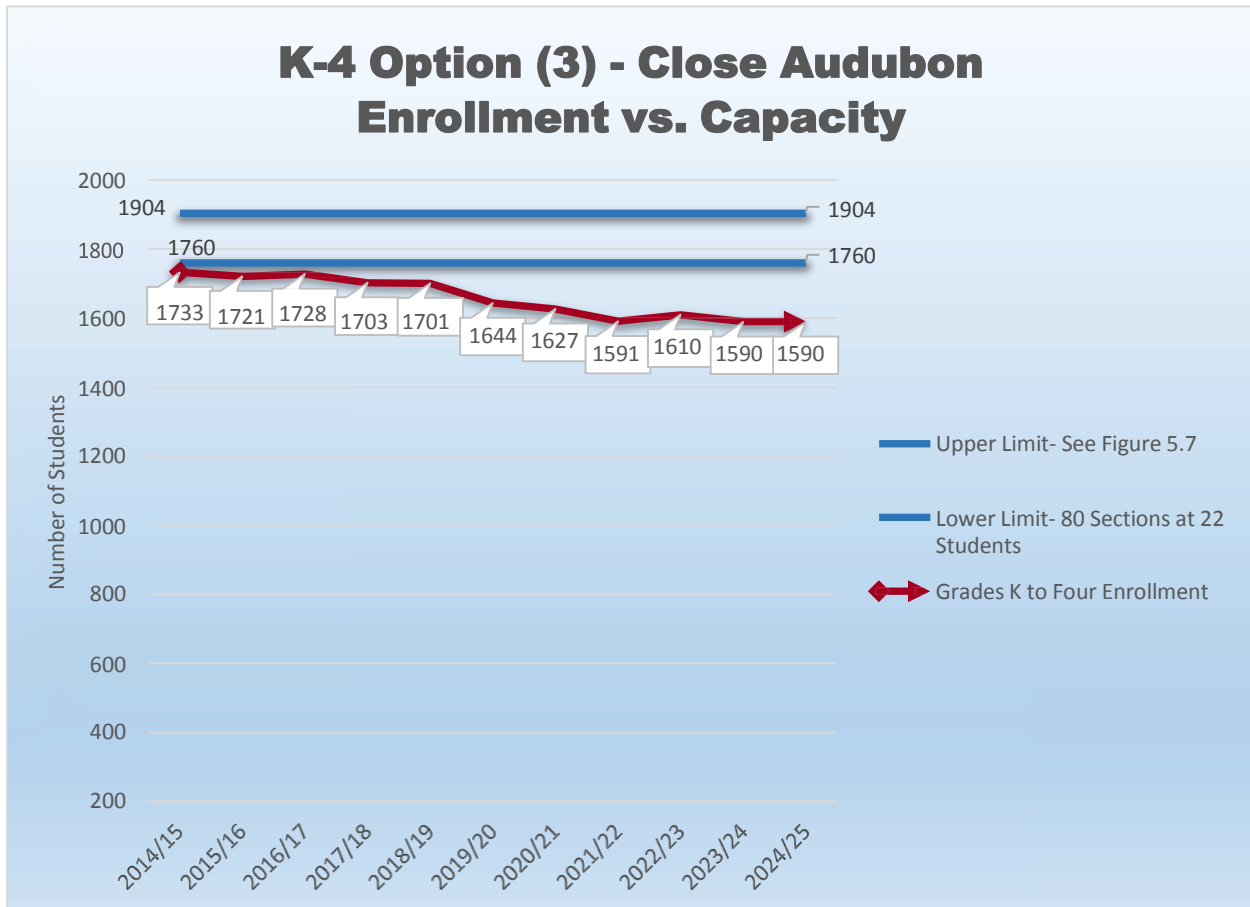


Figure 5.8 – K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon – Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansion:

Figure 5.8 illustrates that **K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon** provides a good fit of available capacity with projected enrollment. Projected (143 students) declines in K-5 enrollment over the next ten years provides a measure of excess capacity and room for unforeseen future growth. The remaining elementary schools feature full-size classrooms that have not been counted toward school capacity, nor are they required to maintain current special education and pupil support services. Methacton School District could use these classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

In a five- to ten-year timeframe, the Arrowhead Elementary School will require major renovations. At that time, the District should contemplate elimination of four existing modular classrooms. During the Arrowhead renovation planning process, the proposed capacity of

Arrowhead could be adjusted (up or down, through building additions or demolition) to suit future enrollment projection updates.

K-4 Option (3) – Close Audubon:

Pros:

- Maintains successful K-4 program
- Maintains same level of special education / pupil support services
- Saves annual operating costs
- Saves cost of major renovation at Audubon over the next 5 to 10 years
- Recent 5-6 and 7-8 programs remain
- Does not require grade re-configuration

Cons:

- Does not address excess capacity in Skyview / Arcola
- Significant capital improvements are needed at Arrowhead in the next 3-5 and 5-10 years
- Must re-draw attendance areas

Section 5.4 K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th

Methacton School District

The **K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th** restores the historic K-5 / 6-8 / 9-12 District-wide grade configuration. Re-incorporating 6th grade into Arcola Intermediate School requires splitting-up 6th grade with two multi-disciplinary 6th grade teams located at the Arcola end and two multi-disciplinary 6th grade teams located at the Skyview end. The remaining space in Skyview would be adapted to K-5 elementary school, with seven sections per grades K-5.

<i>Grade Levels:</i>	<i>School Capacity:</i>	<i>Remarks:</i>
K to 5 th Grade	2392	See Figure 5.10
6 th and 8 th Grade	1305	See Figure 11.1 plus 200 students for eight classrooms (split 6 th grade) in Skyview
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
<i>Total School Capacity:</i>	<i>5646</i>	

Figure 5.9 – K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th -- School Capacity Summary

The **K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th** restores the three newest elementary schools: Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, to a K-5 grade configuration. Each elementary school would comfortably fit three sections of each grade level. We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at four sections of 22 students, each. We rate 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade capacity at three sections of 25 students.

We rate the K-5 capacity for the adaptive use of a portion of Skyview. We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at six sections of 22 students. We rate 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade capacity at seven sections of 25 students. The K-5 portion of Skyview requires 37 classrooms.

We reserve eight classrooms of the Skyview end of the building for two multi-disciplinary teams of four classrooms each for 6th grade students. We locate the 6th grade teams on the Skyview second floor to incorporate two existing science labs.

	<i>K</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>5th Grade</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>School:</i>							
Arrowhead ES	0	0	0	0	0		0
Audubon ES	0	0	0	0	0		0
Eagleview ES	88	88	75	75	75	75	476
Woodland ES	88	88	75	75	75	75	476
Worcester ES	88	88	75	75	75	75	476
Skyview ES	132	132	175	175	175	175	964
Classrooms	9	18	16	16	16	16	91
K to 5 Totals	396	396	400	400	400	400	2392

Figure 5.10 –K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th - Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services

To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve five full-size classrooms for each of the remaining elementary schools: Eagleview, Woodland and Worcester. We reserve ten full-size classrooms at Skyview to maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services.

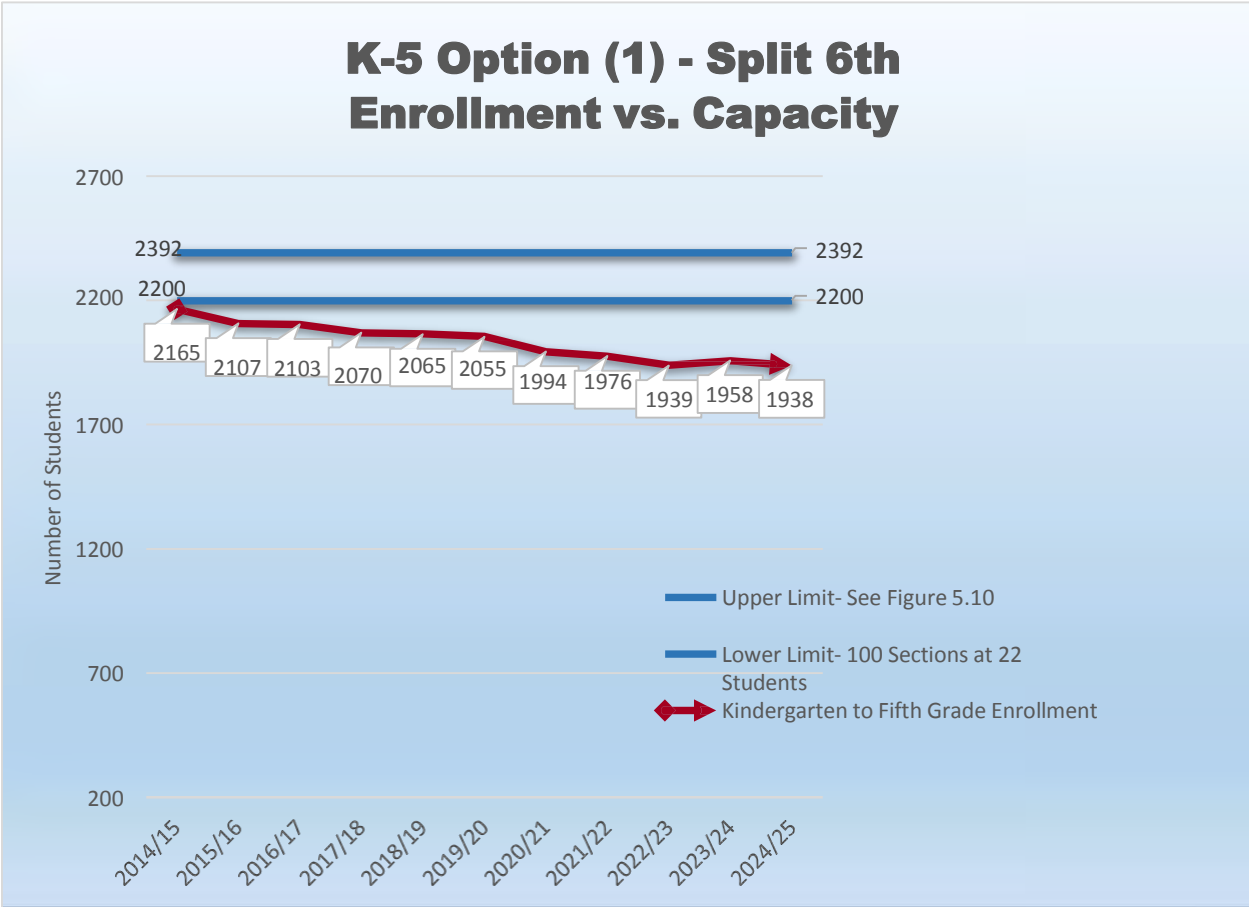


Figure 5.11 – K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th – Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansion:

Figure 5.11 illustrates that **K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th** provides a close fit of available K-5 capacity with projected K-5 enrollment. Projected 227-student declines in enrollment over the next ten years provides a measure of additional capacity. The three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, feature five full-size classrooms that have not already been counted toward school capacity, nor are they required to maintain the current special education and pupil support services. Skyview features two full-size classrooms that have not been counted toward school capacity. Methacton School District could use these additional classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

K-5 Option (1) – Split 6th:

Pros:

- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools

Cons:

- Reverts to K-5 and 6-8 grade configurations
- Requires significant planning
- Educational model splits 6th grade (6-8 school) between Arcola and Skyview
- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Grade re-alignment
- Must re-draw attendance areas

Section 5.5 K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade

Methacton School District

The **K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade** scenario expands the three newest elementary schools from a 476-student to a 576-student capacity to accommodate four sections per grades K-5.

Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester Elementary Schools would require a 4-classroom addition to increase each school to a 576-student capacity.

The cost of all three additions, estimated at three schools x \$1.5 million each = \$4.5 million. We anticipate that closing both Arrowhead and Audubon Elementary Schools would avoid the cost of major renovations at a total cost of \$20-24 million. This scenario consolidates five existing elementary schools to three, with an adjustment of attendance areas throughout the Methacton School District.

<i>Grade Levels:</i>	<i>School Capacity:</i>	<i>Remarks:</i>
K to 5 th Grade	2492	See Figure 5.13
6 th Grade	400	16 classrooms in Skyview
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 11.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
<i>Total School Capacity:</i>	<i>5946</i>	

Figure 5.12 – K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade-- School Capacity Summary

This **K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade** restores the three newest elementary schools: Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, to a K-5 configuration. With a four-classroom addition at Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, four sections of each grade level fit comfortably. We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at four sections of 22 students each. We rate 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades at four sections of 25 students each.

We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at Skyview at six sections of 22 students. We rate 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grades at Skyview at five sections of 25 students. The K-5 portion of Skyview requires 29 classrooms. We reserve 16 classrooms on the Skyview end of the building for four multi-disciplinary teams of four classrooms each. We locate the 6th grade teams on the Skyview second floor to incorporate two existing science labs.

	<i>K</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>5th Grade</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>School:</i>							
Arrowhead ES	0	0	0	0	0		0
Audubon ES	0	0	0	0	0		0
Eagleview ES	88	88	100	100	100	100	576
Woodland ES	88	88	100	100	100	100	576
Worcester ES	88	88	100	100	100	100	576
Skyview ES	132	132	125	125	125	125	764
Classrooms	9	18	17	17	17	17	95
K to 5 Totals	396	396	425	425	425	425	2492

Figure 5.13 –K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade - Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services

To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve five full-size classrooms for each of the remaining elementary schools: Eagleview, Woodland and Worcester. We reserve ten full-size classrooms at Skyview, to maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services. These full-size classrooms are not included in rated school capacity.

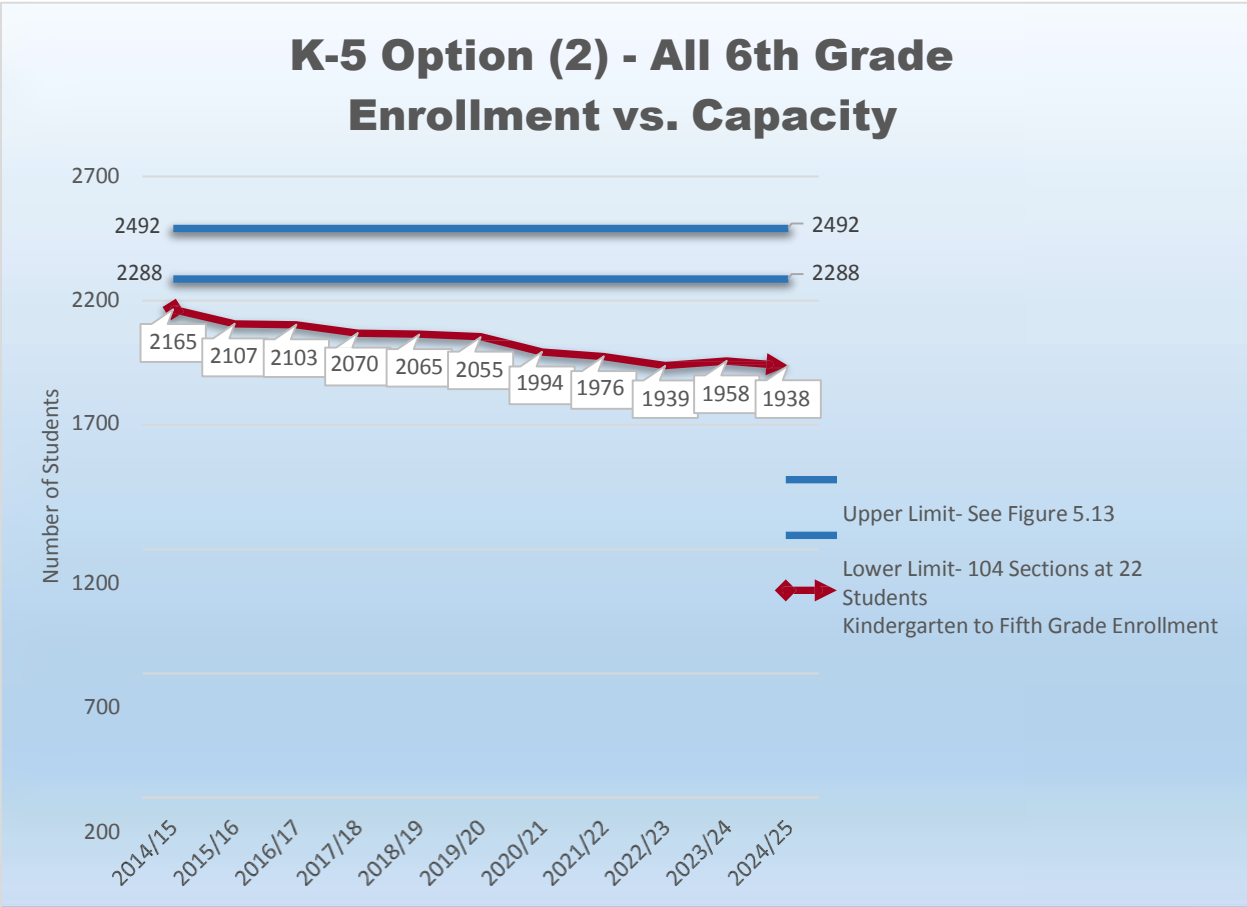


Figure 5.14 – K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade– Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansions:

Figure 5.14 illustrates that **K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade** provides a loose fit of available K-5 capacity with projected K-5 enrollment. Projected 227-student declines in K-5 enrollment over the next ten years provides a measure of additional student capacity. The three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, feature five full-size classrooms that have not already been counted toward school capacity, nor are they required to maintain the current special education and pupil support services. Skyview features two full-size classrooms that have not already been counted toward school capacity. Methacton School District could use these additional classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

K-5 Option (2) – All 6th Grade:

Pros:

- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools
- Maintains all 6th grade in elementary setting

Cons:

- Requires significant curricular and programming realignment
- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Must re-draw attendance areas
- Skyview not equitable with remaining elementary schools

Section 5.6 K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola

Methacton School District

The **K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola** explores relocating all 4th grade students, District-wide, to Skyview Upper Elementary School. This scenario adapts the three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, to a K-3 grade configuration. This scenario consolidates five existing Methacton School District elementary attendance areas to three, with an adjustment of attendance areas throughout the Methacton School District.

Grade Levels:	School Capacity:	Remarks:
K to 3 rd Grade	1542	See Figure 5.16
4 th , 5 th and 6 th Grade	1100	See Figure 11.11 plus 75 students for 3 added science labs
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 12.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
Total Student Capacity:	5696	

Figure 5.15 – K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola - School Capacity Summary

We rate kindergarten and 1st grade capacity at six sections of 22 students. We rate 2nd and 3rd grade capacity at five sections of 25 students.

We rate the capacity of Skyview at 1100 students, based on 44 sections at 25 students. We rate the capacity of Arcola at 1105 students. We compare this 2205 total capacity to projected enrollment for grades 4 to 8 in Figure 5.18.

Grades 4 to 8 would be an awkward fit for the Skyview / Arcola campus. Grade levels would need to be split between the first and second floor in both buildings. At least one grade level would need to be split between the two buildings.

Aside from the educational issues associated with this grade reconfiguration, several logistical issues require further study. Current traffic and transportation challenges would be compounded. Food service, dining room seating capacity and meal schedule would require further study. Special subject room locations and capacity would require campus-wide analysis.

	<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>1st Grade</i>	<i>2nd Grade</i>	<i>3rd Grade</i>	<i>4th Grade</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>School:</i>						
Arrowhead ES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Audubon ES	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eagleville ES	132	132	125	125	0	514
Woodland ES	132	132	125	125	0	514
Worcester ES	132	132	125	125	0	514
Classrooms	9	18	15	15	0	57
K to 3 Totals	396	396	375	375	0	1542

Figure 5.16 – K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola - Elementary School Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services:

To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve four full-size classrooms for each of the remaining elementary schools: Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester. We reserve ten full-size classrooms at Skyview and ten full-size classrooms at Arcola. These full-size classrooms are not included in rated school capacity.

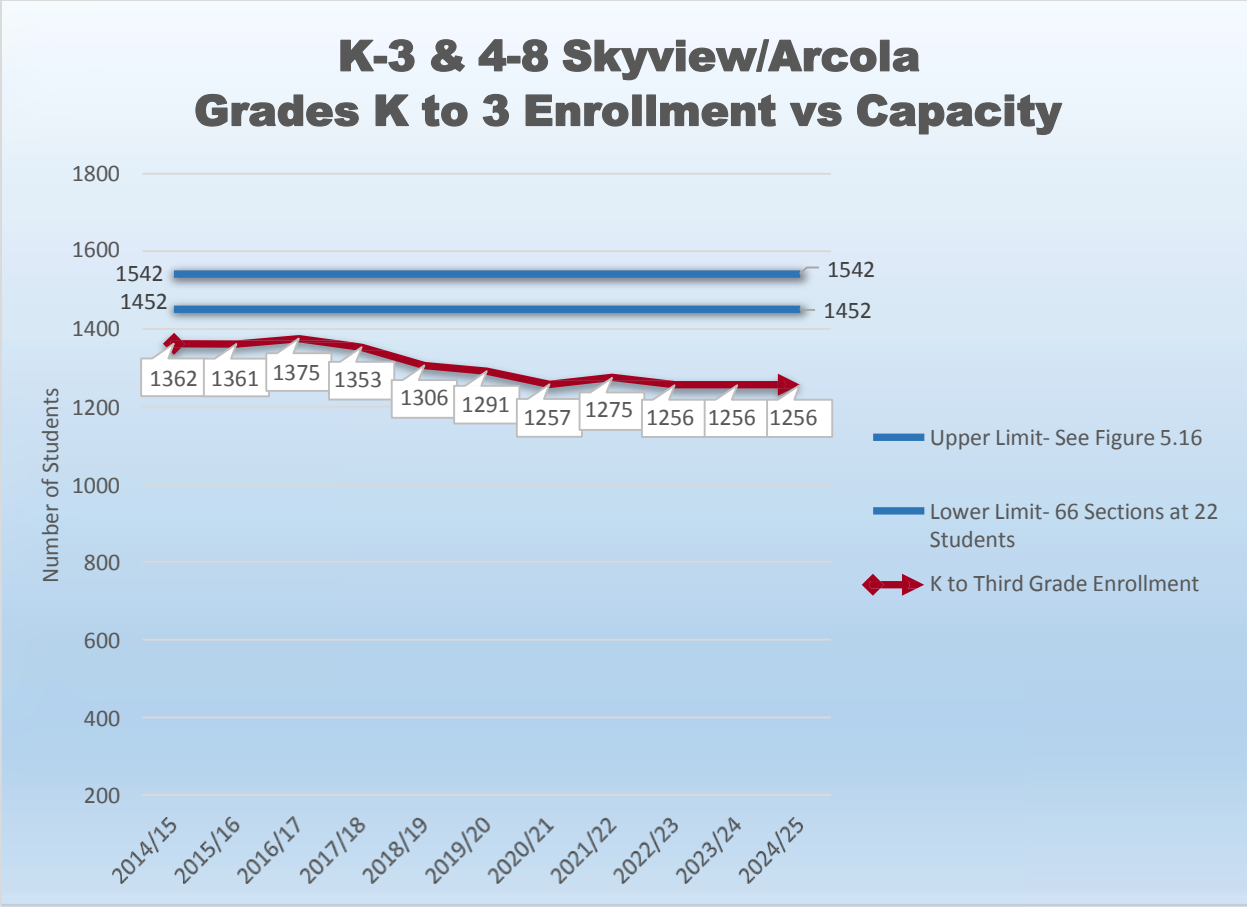


Figure 5.17 – K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola – Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansion:

Figure 5.17 illustrates that the *K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola* is a loose fit of available capacity in three existing elementary schools with projected K-3 enrollment. Projected 106 students decline in K-3 enrollment over the next ten years would increase excess school capacity. The three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, feature five full-size classrooms that have not been counted toward school capacity, nor are they required to maintain the current special education and pupil support services. Methacton School District could use these additional five classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

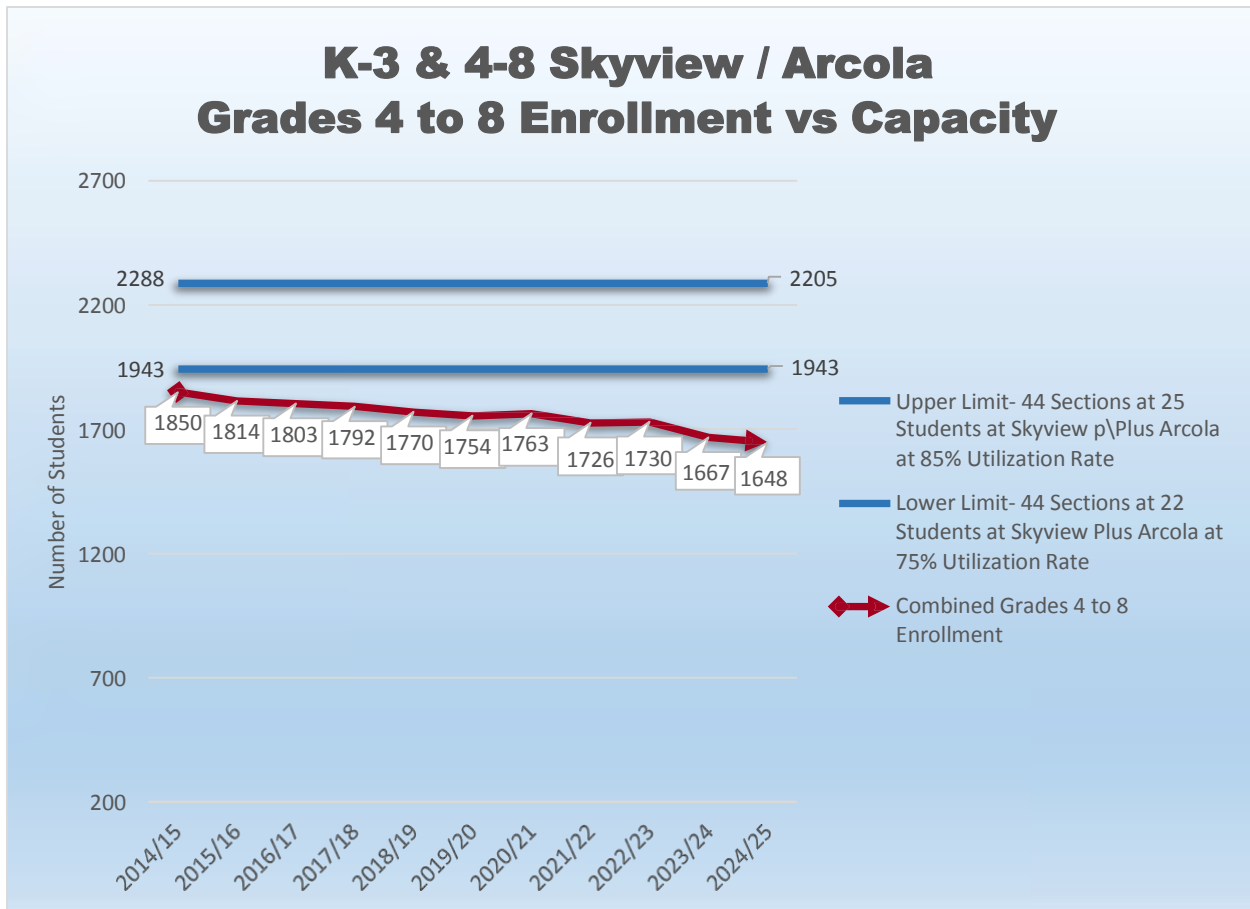


Figure 5.18 – K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola – Enrollment vs Capacity

Skyview features three full-size classrooms that have not already been counted toward school capacity. Arcola features three full-size classrooms that have not been counted toward school capacity. Methacton School District could use these six additional classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth.

K-3 & 4-8 Skyview / Arcola:

Pros:

- Keeps the youngest students in their neighborhood schools
- Saves annual operating costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools
- Can be achieved without added construction

Cons:

- Skyview / Arcola split grades among floors and between buildings
- Divides 5 grades in 4 spaces
- Divides 5 grades in 2 lunchrooms
- Requires time to explore educational implications
- Traffic challenges on-campus
- Must re-draw attendance areas
- Introduces floaters and IPCs at Skyview and Arcola
- Shifts from special education services by team to special education services by grade level at Skyview / Arcola

Section 5.7 K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools

Methacton School District

K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools capitalizes on excess capacity already found in existing elementary schools. Each of the three elementary schools that remain expand to three sections of each grade level K-6. This scenario consolidates five existing elementary schools to three, with an adjustment of attendance areas throughout the Methacton School District. This scenario adapts Skyview to a K-6 grade configuration.

Grade Levels:	School Capacity:	Remarks:
K to 6 th Grade	2748	See Figure 5.20
7 th and 8 th Grade	1105	See Figure 11.1
9 th to 12 th Grade	1949	See Figure 13.1
Total School Capacity:	5802	

Figure 5.19 – K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools -- School Capacity Summary

For each of the three newest elementary schools, Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester, we rate kindergarten capacity at four sections of 22 students. We rate 1st grade capacity at three sections of 22 students. We rate 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade capacity at three sections of 25 students.

At Skyview, we rate kindergarten capacity at six sections of 22 students. We rate 1st grade capacity at seven sections of 1st grade. We rate 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade capacity at seven sections of 25 students.

	K	1st Gr	2nd Gr	3rd Gr	4th Gr	5th Gr	6th Gr	Total
School:								
Arrowhead ES	0	0	0	0	0			0
Audubon ES	0	0	0	0	0			0
Eagleville ES	88	66	75	75	75	75	75	525
Woodland ES	88	66	75	75	75	75	75	525
Worcester ES	88	66	75	75	75	75	75	525
Skyview ES	132	154	175	175	175	175	175	1200
Classrooms	9	16	16	16	16	16	16	105
K to 5 Totals	396	352	400	400	400	400	400	2748

Figure 5.20 – K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools – Breakdown of Capacity

Classroom Space for Special Education and Pupil Support Services:

To maintain the current level of special education and pupil support services, we reserve four to five full-size classrooms for the three remaining elementary schools. This commits all full-size

classrooms in all three elementary schools with no extra classrooms for unforeseen enrollment expansion. This reveals a weakness in this scenario; the K-6 grade configuration is a very tight fit with these three elementary schools. We reserve ten full-size classrooms at Skyview for special education and pupil support services.

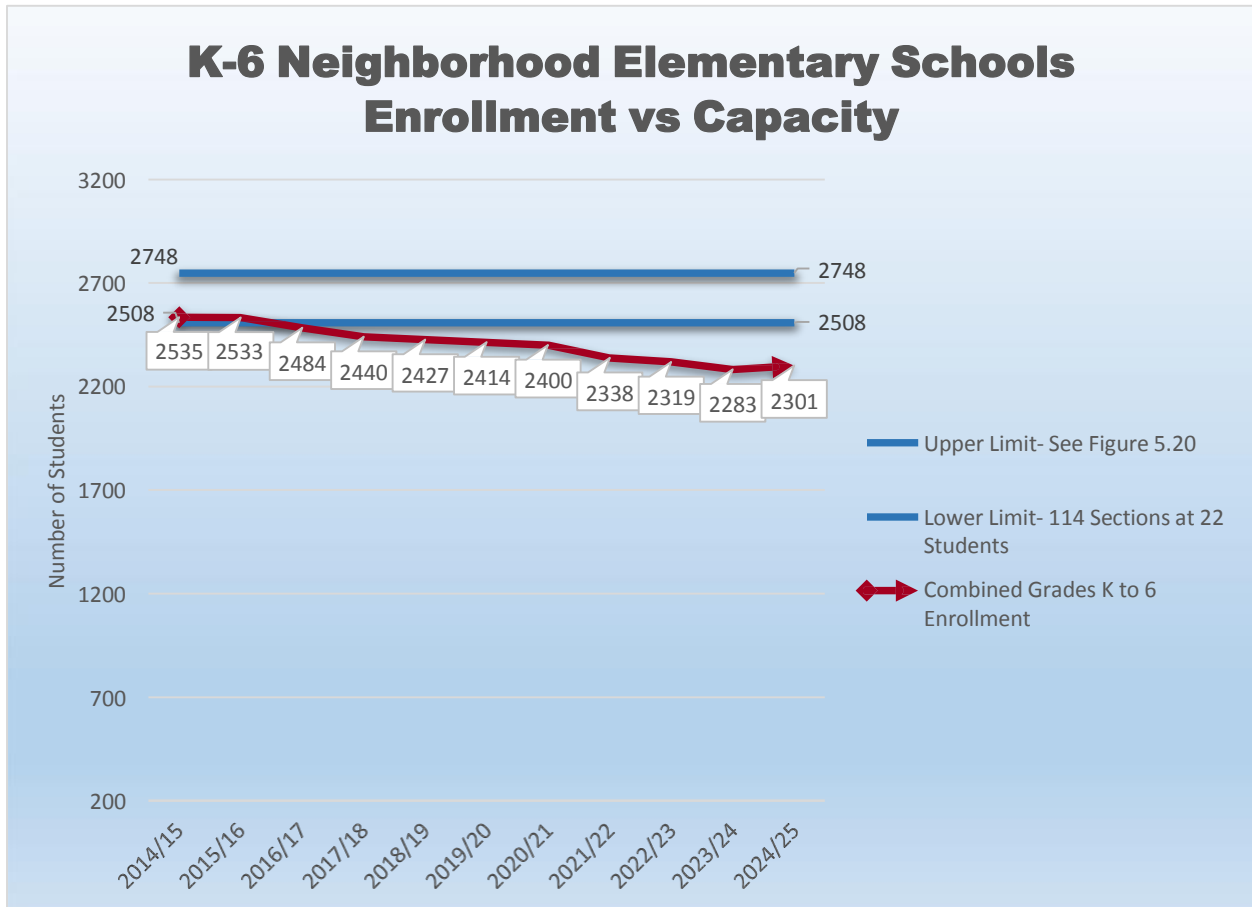


Figure 5.21 – K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools – Enrollment vs Capacity

Flexibility for Unforeseen Enrollment Expansion:

Figure 5.21 illustrates that **K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools** provides a tight fit of available K-6 capacity with projected K-6 enrollment. Projected 234 students decline in K-6 enrollment over the next ten years provides a measure of additional excess school capacity. Eagleville, Woodland and Worcester Elementary Schools would commit all full-size classrooms to regular classrooms, special education or pupil support services, with no available classrooms to accommodate unforeseen enrollment growth. Skyview features two additional classrooms that have not already been counted toward school capacity.

K-6 Neighborhood Elementary Schools:

Pros:

- Fewer transitions for students
- Retains elementary concept for grades K-6
- Saves annual operation costs
- Avoids two major renovations in 5 to 10 years by closing Audubon and Arrowhead Elementary Schools

Cons:

- Skyview renovation costs for K/1
- Complex two-year disruptive transition needed to reach configuration
- Skyview pupil support services not equitable with remaining elementary schools
- Requires time to explore educational implications
- Must re-draw attendance area lines

6. Arrowhead Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Arrowhead Elementary School
232 Level Rd
Collegeville PA 19426

Lower Providence Township
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Aaron Roberts, Principal
X 44200
aroberts@methacton.org email
610.489.5000 phone
610.489.4350 fax



Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 26
- Regular classrooms: 13 (includes 2 sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 13
- Elementary: 400 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 525 students

Current enrollment: 295 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (74% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

Date of construction: 1975 B and modular classrooms added and enclosed later

Gross area: 55,000 square feet

Number of stories: one

Site area: 13 acres (appropriately-sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 14 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood

6. Arrowhead Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Arrowhead Elementary School
232 Level Rd
Collegeville PA 19426

Lower Providence Township
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Aaron Roberts, Principal

X 44200

aroberts@methacton.org email

610.489.5000 phone

610.489.4350 fax



Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 26
- Regular classrooms: 13 (includes 2 sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 13
- Elementary: 400 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 525 students

Current enrollment: 295 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (74% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

Date of construction: 1975 B and modular classrooms added and enclosed later

Gross area: 55,000 square feet

Number of stories: one

Site area: 13 acres (appropriately-sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 14 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood



Arrowhead Elementary School Narrative Summary:

Arrowhead Elementary School was originally designed as an open-plan elementary school. True to its ‘arrowhead’ name, the school’s floor plan resembles an arrowhead with a large diamond with classroom pods joined to a smaller diamond by the main entry lobby and Principal’s office. The smaller diamond facilitates music, physical education, cafe, nurse’s office and building services (custodian, boiler room, etc.).

The larger diamond is organized around a ring corridor with library, art, and certain pupil support services inside the ring corridor and five separate classroom clusters outside the ring corridor. These pod clusters feature numerous trapezoidal classrooms. Grade level sections occupy adjoining classrooms within these five (kindergarten to fourth grade) clusters. Despite a relatively simple organizing element (the ring corridor) the clustering of classrooms, angled walls, limited views to the exterior and a modular classroom addition between two original pods make way-finding confusing to visitors.

Arrowhead Elementary School has 39 years of service. Over time, moveable partitions among these many classrooms were replaced with solid walls and classroom doors to better isolate instructional spaces, acoustically. The classroom partitions and particularly the classroom entry doors are lightweight construction that have been added over time. Many classroom doors and door hardware are near the end of their useful lives. Needed replacement could incorporate improvements in signage, use of color and other techniques to improve way-finding.



Improved energy efficiency: Improved roof insulation, window and exterior door replacements, new exterior door vestibules, high-efficiency mechanical and electrical equipment, daylight harvesting, low-flow water fixtures and modern automatic temperature controls could all save Methacton School District money through reduced operating costs at Arrowhead Elementary School.



Arrowhead Elementary School also serves Collegeville as a community use center. This school opens early, offering limited nutrition programs and academic support to eligible students. This school remains open late to accommodate a broad variety of community organizations and athletic leagues.



Arrowhead Elementary School Educational Assessment:

Arrowhead Elementary School has a dedicated computer lab. There are 12 additional full-size classrooms dedicated to pupil support or special education services as follows:

- K/1/2 learning support
- Grades 3/4 learning support (in a modular classroom)
- IU autism
- Gifted IEP
- K/1/2 communication
- Grade 3/4 communication
- Instructional intervention support
- Math support
- Reading specialist
- Occupational therapy
- Emotional support
- Speech and language



Deducting the IU autism classroom, twelve classrooms equate to one full-sized classroom per 33 students of capacity in use for pupil support services or special education. Like all other Methacton elementary schools, Arrowhead Elementary School has five dedicated spaces for special subjects: physical education, art, vocal music, instrumental music and library. The library has an adjoining classroom-size instructional space.



Arrowhead Elementary School Student Capacity Analysis:

Arrowhead Elementary School has 13 classrooms that can be designated for use at any grade level. In school year 2013-14 School Principal designated three sections for kindergarten and three sections each for 1st grade and 4th grade level classrooms. In the current school year 2014-15, this school offers only two sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom. We rate the total student capacity of Arrowhead Elementary School at 400 students, summarized in Table 6.1.

	<i>Number of Classrooms</i>	<i>Students per Classroom</i>	<i>Student Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>			
Half-day Kindergarten	2	50	100
1 st Grade	3	25	75
2 nd Grade	3	25	75
3 rd Grade	3	25	75
4 th Grade	3	25	75
Total:	14		400
Utilization Factor:			100%
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>			400

Table 6.1

Tabulation of Arrowhead Elementary School Spaces and Total Student Capacity

7. Audubon Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Audubon Elementary School

2765 Egypt Rd

Eagleville PA 19403

Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Tara L Ricci, Principal

X 42204

tricci@methacton.org email

610.489.5000 phone

610.831.5328 fax



Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 23
- Regular classrooms: 18 (includes 3 sections of half-day kindergarten in two classrooms)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 5
- Elementary: 500 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 550 students

Current enrollment: 433 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (87% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

Date of construction: 1928 B and 1950, 1955, 1960, 1979 and 1995 A/R

Gross area: 56,600 square feet

Number of stories: two (partial second floor)

Site area: 15 acres (appropriately-sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 15 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood



Audubon Elementary School Narrative Summary:

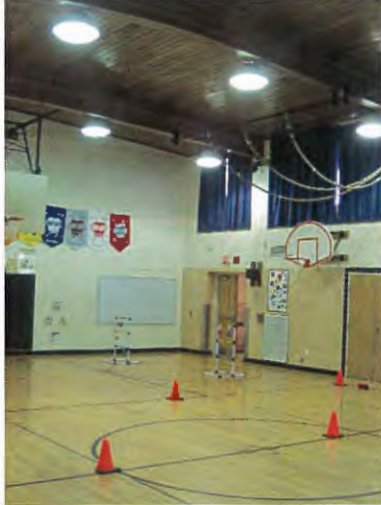
The original two-story portion of Audubon Elementary School dates back to 1928. Numerous additions and renovations projects extended classroom wings in 1950, 1955, 1960, 1979 and 1995. Classroom wings are organized in grade level clusters with kindergarten and first grade in a single-loaded corridor, second grade clustered in classrooms on the second floor and third and fourth grade clustered in a double-loaded classroom wing. Two modular classrooms extend the third- and fourth-grade classroom wing. A separate café addition extends beyond the gym. The classroom wings enclose a courtyard currently used for outdoor learning, including secured student garden projects.



Improved energy efficiency: Window and exterior door replacements, new exterior door vestibules, high-efficiency mechanical and electrical equipment, daylight harvesting, low-flow water fixtures and modern automatic temperature controls could all save Methacton School District money through reduced operating costs at Audubon Elementary School.

Audubon Elementary School also serves Eagleville as a community use center. This school opens early, offering limited nutrition programs and academic support to eligible students. This school remains open late for use by a broad variety of community organizations and athletic leagues. Classroom wings and the second floor can be easily closed off during after-school hours to zone this school for community use.





Audubon Elementary School Educational Assessment:

The District employs a co-teaching model to accommodate special education and pupil support services in certain classrooms. The co-teaching model suggests push-in type special education and pupil support services. At Audubon, most special education and pupil support services are pull-out, rather than push-in type services.

Many classroom sizes are large enough to accommodate teacher stations for two (one content teacher and one instructional specialist). This does not, however, negate the need to dedicate full-size classroom spaces in ways that do not yield student capacity. Audubon Elementary School occupies one classroom as a computer lab. There are five other full-size classrooms dedicated to pupil support or special education services as follows:



- K/1/2 learning support
- Grades 3/4 learning support
- District autism support
- Title One reading support (in a modular classroom)
- English-language learners



Five classrooms equate to one full-sized classroom per 100 students of capacity in use for pupil support services or special education. Audubon Elementary School features several seminar-size spaces used for pupil support services, including: gifted IEP, occupational therapy and math support. Like all other Methacton elementary schools, Audubon Elementary School has five dedicated spaces for special subjects: physical education, art, vocal music, instrumental music and library. The instrumental music occupies a modular classroom.

Audubon Elementary School Student Capacity Analysis:

Audubon Elementary School has 18 classrooms that can be designated for use at any grade level. Three sections of (half-day) kindergarten plus four sections each of grades 1 to 4 at 25 students per section requires 18 classrooms. During the 2013-14 school year, the School Principal designated three sections for kindergarten and four sections each for 1st grade to 4th grade level classrooms. During the current 2014-15 school year, Audubon operates only 3 sections of 3rd grade. We rate the total student capacity of Audubon Elementary School at 500 students, summarized in Table 7.1.

	<i>Number of Classrooms</i>	<i>Students per Classroom</i>	<i>Student Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>			
Half-day Kindergarten	2	50	100
1 st Grade	4	25	100
2 nd Grade	4	25	100
3 rd Grade	4	25	100
4 th Grade	4	25	100
Total:	18		500
Utilization Factor:			100%
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>			<i>500</i>

***Table 7.1
Tabulation of Audubon Elementary School Spaces and Total Student Capacity***

8. Eagleville Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Eagleville Elementary School
125 Summit Av
Eagleville PA 19403

Lower Providence Township
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Jenifer Brucker, Principal

X 41200

jbrucker@methacton.org email

610.489.5000 phone

610.831.5324 fax

Student capacity based on Thompson
Associates Architects and Planners
analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 24
- Regular classrooms: 16 (includes 2 sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 8
- Elementary: 450 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 550 students

Current enrollment: 356 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (79% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

Date of construction: 2001 B

Gross area: 66,190 square feet

Number of stories: two

Site area: 18 acres (appropriately-sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 15 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood





Narrative Summary:

Eagleville and Worcester Elementary Schools are sister schools designed using a similar two-story double-loaded corridor model. Eagleville Elementary School features a double-loaded classroom wing grade-level clusters. Grades kindergarten to 2 are located on the first floor. Grades 3 and 4 are located on the second floor. The main entry lobby and Principal’s office bisect the double-loaded corridor, separating classrooms from the library, café and gym on the first floor and making the school easily zoned for after-hours community use. This geometry does not support ‘passive security’ measures to admit visitors directly into the administrative office from outdoors.



This school opens early, offering limited nutrition programs and academic support to eligible students. This school remains open late to accommodate a broad variety of community organizations and athletic leagues.



Although this school is in like-new condition, persistent roof leaks at the edge of the roof where kindergarten and administrative offices extend beyond the second floor classrooms above need to be researched and repaired. Paint finishes over exterior galvanized-steel lintels at masonry openings failed from improper paint preparation.



Community fundraising efforts led to construction of an excellent community-use plaza outside of the main entry doors. Outdoor tables and chairs make this plaza ideal for outdoor learning.





Eagleville Elementary School Educational Assessment:

Eagleville Elementary School has a dedicated computer lab. There are eight full-size classrooms dedicated to pupil support or special education services as follows:

- K/1/2 learning support
- Grade 3 learning support
- Grade 4 learning support
- Emotional support
- Instructional intervention support
- Math support / gifted IEP
- Reading support
- English-language learners



Eight classrooms equate to one full-sized classroom per 56 students of capacity in use for pupil support services or special education. Eagleville Elementary School features two additional seminar-size spaces used for occupational therapy and speech therapy. Like all other Methacton elementary schools, Eagleville Elementary School has five dedicated spaces for special subjects: physical education, art, vocal music, instrumental music and library.



Eagleville Elementary School Student Capacity Analysis:

Eagleville Elementary School has 16 classrooms that can be designated for use at any grade level. The School Principal currently designates three sections for kindergarten and four sections each for 1st grade and 3rd grade level classrooms. She designates three sections each for 2nd grade and 4th grade level classrooms. We rate the total student capacity of Eagleville Elementary School at 450 students, summarized in Table 8.1.

	<i>Number of Classrooms</i>	<i>Students per Classroom</i>	<i>Student Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>			
Half-day Kindergarten	2	50	100
1 st Grade	4	25	100
2 nd Grade	3	25	75
3 rd Grade	4	25	100
4 th Grade	3	25	75
Total:	16		450
Utilization Factor:			100%
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>			450

***Table 8.1
Tabulation of Eagleville Elementary School Spaces and Total Student Capacity***

9. Woodland Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Woodland Elementary School
2700 Woodland Av
Eagleville PA 19403

Lower Providence Township
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Zanthia D Reddish EdD, Principal
X 43200

zreddish@methacton.org email

610.489.5000 phone

610.831.5319 fax

Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 25
- Regular classrooms: 14 (includes 3 sections of half-day kindergarten in two classrooms)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 11
- Elementary: 400 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon part A rated capacity: 625 students

Current enrollment: 299 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (75% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

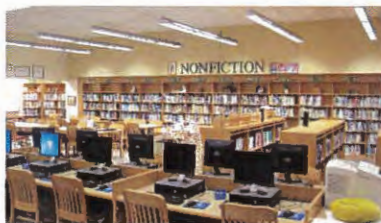
Date of construction: 1969 B and 2009 A/R

Gross area: 60,700 square feet

Number of stories: one

Site area: 21 acres (generously sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 14 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood



Woodland Elementary School Narrative Summary:

Woodland Elementary School serves as the most-recent generation of elementary school programming for Methacton School District. Kindergarten and 1st Grade are clustered in a double-loaded classroom wing. Grades 2, 3 and 4 are clustered in a separate classroom wing. The main entry lobby, Principal's office and school library occupy the center of this pinwheel shaped floor plan. The café, gym, art, vocal music and instrumental music rooms are located to the rear of the school off of the lobby, making the school easily zoned for after-hours community use. This school opens early, offering limited nutrition programs and academic support to eligible students. This school remains open late to accommodate a broad variety of community organizations and athletic leagues.



Woodland Elementary School Educational Assessment:
Woodland Elementary School has a dedicated computer lab.
There are ten additional full-size classrooms dedicated to pupil support or special education services as follows:

- K/1/2 learning support
- Grade 3/4 learning support
- District autistic support
- District autistic support
- Emotional support
- IU autistic support
- Gifted IEP
- Instructional intervention support
- Reading support
- Math support



Deducting the IU autistic support classroom, nine classrooms equates to one full-sized classroom per 44 students of capacity in use for pupil support services or special education. Woodland Elementary School features two large group instruction spaces used for occupational therapy and physical therapy and features several additional seminar-size spaces used for English-language learners, speech therapy and office space. Like all other Methacton elementary schools, Woodland Elementary School has five dedicated spaces for special subjects: physical education, art, vocal music, instrumental music and library.



Woodland Elementary School Student Capacity Analysis:

Woodland Elementary School has 14 classrooms that can be designated for use at any grade level. The School Principal currently designates three sections for kindergarten and three sections each for 1st grade to 4th grade level classrooms. We rate the total student capacity of Woodland Elementary School at 400 students, summarized in Table 9.1.

	<i>Number of Classrooms</i>	<i>Students per Classroom</i>	<i>Student Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>			
Half-day Kindergarten	2	50	100
1 st Grade	3	25	75
2 nd Grade	3	25	75
3 rd Grade	3	25	75
4 th Grade	3	25	75
Total:	14		400
Utilization Factor:			100%
<i>Total Student Capacity:</i>			400

***Table 9.1
Tabulation of Woodland Elementary School Spaces and Total Student Capacity***

10. Worcester Elementary School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Worcester Elementary School
3017 Skippack Pike
Lansdale PA 19446

Worcester Township, Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Jason F Sorgini, Principal
X 40200
jsorgini@methacton.org email
610.489.5000 phone
610.831.5326 fax



School capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Number of current classrooms: 25
- Regular classrooms: 17 (includes 2 sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom)
- Classrooms available for special education and pupil support services: 8
- Elementary: 475 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 550 students

Current enrollment: 367 students - Half-day kindergarten to 4th grade students (77% of student capacity)

Major use: elementary school

Date of construction: 1997 B

Gross area: 67,000 square feet

Number of stories: two

Site area: 12 acres (appropriately-sized based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended 15 acres)

Setting: suburban residential neighborhood

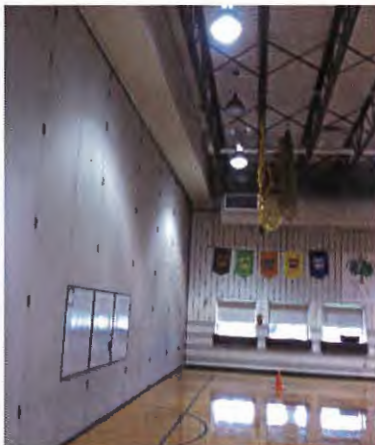


Narrative Summary:

Worcester and Eagleville Elementary Schools are sister schools designed using a similar two-story double loaded corridor model. Worcester Elementary School features classrooms facing the rear of the school and special subjects facing the front of the school. Grade-levels kindergarten, 1 and 2 are clustered on the first floor. Grades 3 and 4 are clustered on the second floor. The main entry lobby and Principal's office bisect the double-loaded corridor with music, physical education, café and custodial services to one side and the library and art room to the other side. This geometry does not support 'passive security' measures to admit visitors directly into the administrative office from outdoors.



This school opens early, offering limited nutrition programs and academic support to eligible students. This school remains open late for use by a broad variety of community organizations and athletic leagues. This school cannot be easily zoned for after-hours community use.





Worcester Elementary School Educational Assessment:

Worcester Elementary School has a dedicated computer lab. There are seven additional full-size classrooms dedicated to pupil support or special education services as follows:

- K/1/2 learning support
- Grade 3/4 learning support
- Emotional support
- Challenge / gifted IEP
- Reading intervention support
- Reading support
- Occupational therapy



Seven classrooms reflects one full-sized classroom per 68 students of capacity in use for pupil support services or special education. Worcester Elementary School features three additional seminar-size spaces used for English-language learners, speech therapy and math specialist support. Like all other Methacton elementary schools, Worcester Elementary School has five dedicated spaces for special subjects: physical education, art, vocal music, instrumental music and library.



Worcester Elementary School Student Capacity Analysis:

Worcester Elementary School has 17 classrooms that can be designated for use at any grade level. During the 2013-14 school year, the School Principal designated three each sections for kindergarten and 1st grade. During the current 2014-15 school year, the school offers only two sections of half-day kindergarten in one classroom. The Principal designates four sections each for 2nd grade to 4th grade level classrooms. We rate the total student capacity of Worcester Elementary School at 475 students, summarized in Table 10.1.

	<i>Number of Classrooms</i>	<i>Students per Classroom</i>	<i>School Capacity</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>			
Half-day Kindergarten	2	50	100
1 st Grade	3	25	75
2 nd Grade	4	25	100
3 rd Grade	4	25	100
4 th Grade	4	25	100
Total:	17		475
Utilization Factor:			100%
<i>Total School Capacity:</i>			475

Table 10.1
Tabulation of Worcester Elementary School Spaces and Total School Capacity

11. Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6
4001B Eagleville Rd
Norristown PA 19403.1834

Lower Providence Township
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Melissa Gorla, Principal
X 34200
mgorla@methactonsd.org
610.489.5000 phone
610.489.5046 fax

Student capacity based on Thompson Associates
Architects and Planners analysis:

- Upper elementary school 5-6: 1025 students

Current enrollment: 802 – 5th grade and 6th grade students (78% of student capacity)

Major use: upper elementary school

Date of construction: 2009 B

Gross area: 338,980 square feet (including the Arcola Intermediate School 7-8)

Site area: 14 acres (site shared with Arcola Intermediate School 7-8), undersized for this combined school site, based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended site size of 18 acres for Skyview Upper Elementary School plus 28 acres for Arcola Intermediate School totals 46 combined acres.

Setting: Suburban





Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 Narrative Summary:

Facility Summary: In 2009, Methacton School District expanded and adapted Arcola Intermediate School 6-8 to two schools within one building. Today, the two music suites, cafeteria kitchen and loading dock/receiving area separates the new Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 from Arcola Intermediate School 7-8.



Approximately 70% of Skyview is new construction. 30% of the space was captured from Arcola Intermediate School during the 2009 renovation project, including three science labs. As a result, the first and second floor levels in Skyview match the floor levels in the existing Arcola Intermediate School.

Skyview is designed for full Americans with Disability Act ADA accessibility. The elevator is centrally located in the main entrance lobby. Often, visitors and family members require elevator service for community and classroom activities on the second floor. This elevator is easily found.



Effective use of natural light affects student and staff performance. Skyview's teaching stations have large windows, with appropriate solar heat gain control and shading. School courtyards provide ample natural light to all classrooms and common spaces.



Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 is constructed of durable materials that will stand the test of time. Skyview features low-maintenance terrazzo corridor floors and ceramic tile toilet walls. Although higher in first cost, operation, maintenance and cyclical replacement cost savings make these quality materials a good long-term investment for District taxpayers. Interior and exterior materials are all in new condition.



School Organization and Zoning: Visitors must enter the school directly through the administrative office (a ‘passive security’ measure), during regular school hours. The school secretary and Principal both have direct window view of the bus drop-off and visitor parking lot for good supervisory control. The main entrance lobby doubles as a student commons to stage students for bus dismissal and for other large group activities. The school library serves as the signature architectural space in the main entrance lobby; a visible symbol of learning. Public toilets in the main entrance lobby makes the library ideal for community meetings.

Skyview’s band and chorus rooms adjoin the band, orchestra and chorus rooms in the Arcola Intermediate School 7-8. The music suite adjoins the stage, making the Arcola auditorium convenient for Skyview performing artists and their families.



The gym lobby is zoned for community use. Community members use the gym with access to public toilets in the gym lobby without access to the rest of the school.



Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 Educational Assessment:

Methacton School District organized Skyview Upper Elementary School in grade-level houses by floor. Classrooms are grouped into multi-disciplinary teams. This school has three sign-out science labs with teacher demonstration tables and lab preparation support space.

The library serves as the hub of media access for students. The library is large in area (over 4000 SF), and centrally located in a visible location on the first floor. Two separate computer labs (with one on each floor level) supplement five computer workstations within the library and additional mobile computer carts. The lower level computer lab serves as a computer literacy classroom, a special subject offered to students.



Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 Student Capacity Analysis:

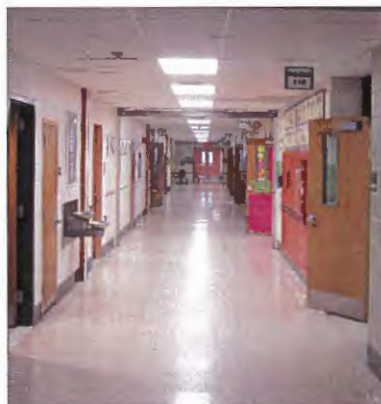
Student capacity is calculated based on student teacher ratios and the number of available classrooms. Methacton School District restricts student to teacher ratio to 30 maximum, but targets 22 to 25, where possible.



Thompson Associates made judgments on spatial requirements for pupil support services, including special education services and special programming. Space allocated for special education and other pupil support services totals seventeen full-size classrooms based on our observations, including:



- Learning support (four classrooms on the first floor and four on the second floor)
- Emotional support (one on the second floor)
- Gifted IEP (one on the first floor and two on the second floor)
- IU autism support (on the first floor)
- District autism support (on the second floor)
- English language learners (on the second floor)
- Reading support (on the second floor)
- District life skills support (one on the first floor)



Deducting the IU autism classroom, and based on the current 2013-14 (grades 5 to 6) enrollment of 802 students, sixteen classrooms equates to one full-size classroom per 50 students at Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6. There are seven additional seminar-sized spaces used for special education and pupil support services.

The existing fifth grade, located on the first floor, is organized into six teams of three sections each (18 total sections). We rate the capacity of the first floor based on the possibility of adding a seventh team of three sections (21 sections, total). The existing sixth grade, located on the second floor, is organized into four teams of four sections each (16 total sections). We rate the capacity of the second floor based on the possibility of adding a fifth team of four sections (20 sections, total). We rate the total student capacity of Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6 at 1025 students, summarized in Table 11.1. The total of ‘regular classrooms’ in Table 11.1 includes full-size classrooms used for special education and pupil support services. Special education and pupil support classrooms are deducted in a separate line item.

	<i>1st Floor</i>	<i>2nd Floor</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Students per Room</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Room Type</i>						
Science labs	1	2		3	0	0
Media classroom	1	0		1	0	0
Regular classrooms	24	26		50	25	1250
Computer lab	1	1		2	0	0
Music	3	0		3	0	0
Art	0	2		2	0	0
Family and Consumer Science	0	0		0	0	0
Tech Ed	1	0		1	0	25
Health	0	1		1	0	25
Physical Ed	2	0		2	0	50
Special education/pupil support classrooms	(3)	(6)		(9)	25	(225)
Subtotal						1025
Utilization Factor:						100%
<i>Total Student Capacity</i>						<i>1025</i>

***Table 11.1
Tabulation of Skyview Upper Elementary School Spaces and Total Student Capacity***

12. Arcola Intermediate School 7-8

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Arcola Intermediate School 7-8
4001A Eagleville Rd
Norristown PA 19403.1834

Lower Providence Township,
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Lucretia Page, Principal
X 30200

lpag@methactonsd.org

610.489.5000 phone

610.831.5317 fax

Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- Intermediate school 7-8: 1105 students

Current enrollment: 777 – 7th grade and 8th grade students (70% of student capacity)

Major use: intermediate school

Date of construction: 1971B; 1994, 1999 and 2009 A/R

Gross area: 338,980 square feet (including the Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6)

Site area: 14 acres (site shared with Skyview Upper Elementary School), undersized for this combined school site, based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended site size of 28 acres for Arcola Intermediate School plus 18 acres for Skyview Upper Elementary School totals 46 combined acres.

Setting: Suburban

Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 Narrative Summary:

Facility Summary: In 2009, Methacton School District expanded and adapted Arcola Intermediate School 6-8 to two schools within one building. Today, the shared music suite, cafeteria kitchen and loading dock/receiving area separates Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 from the new Skyview Upper Elementary School 5-6.



Methacton School District constructed Arcola Intermediate School in 1973, a period marked by the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act ADA. Design in the ADA era inspired architects to remove architectural barriers throughout public buildings. The resultant two-story design features barrier-free design, which has been fine-tuned through subsequent additions and renovations in 1994, 1999 and 2009. Fine tuning for ADA includes specially designed science lab and family and consumer science stations and more-spacious side-approach toilet stalls. An elevator provides access to the second floor. However, its location in a back corner of the school that can be difficult to find, especially for school visitors.



In 1973, school design also responded to the Arab Oil Embargo. Arcola Intermediate School features small window areas, to limit heat transfer. The compact floor plan layout features numerous interior rooms, including eight windowless science labs and six windowless classrooms on the second floor. The first floor features fifteen windowless teaching stations. The school library, health suite, and administrative offices are also windowless. The overall effect is that Arcola Intermediate School is disconnected from the outdoors, making a walk through the main entry lobby or a lunch break near the café courtyard a welcome daylight relief.



Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 is constructed of durable materials that will stand the test of time. Arcola features low-maintenance terrazzo corridor floors and ceramic tile toilet walls. Although higher in first cost, operation, maintenance and cyclical replacement cost savings make these quality materials a good long-term investment for District taxpayers.



Mechanical/electrical systems were not replaced in the 2009 project, requiring ongoing maintenance and replacement of individual components. Exterior masonry, particularly on the rear/southeast facades, requires restoration to repair cracking and protect corroding steel lintels.



School Organization and Zoning: The main entrance lobby doubles as the pre-function space for the auditorium. Combined with the two large group instruction LGI spaces, this performing art venue has the largest seating capacity in the School District. The band and orchestra rooms adjoin the stage, supporting a strong music and performing arts program. Safe egress from this performing arts zone passes through adjoining classroom areas, and cannot be completely secured from visitors wandering through the rest of the building.



The interior position of the existing administrative offices conflicts with the natural flow of student traffic between special subjects (art, family and consumer science, music and technology education) and the two-story classroom wing. Visitors entering directly into the administrative offices from outdoors, is not possible with this geometry.



Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 has a separate activities entrance and lobby zoned for community use of two gyms and an auxiliary gym, along with locker rooms and public toilets. Safe egress from this athletics zone passes through adjoining classroom areas, and cannot be completely secured from wandering visitors through the rest of the building.

Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 serves the entire seventh and eighth grade student population District-wide. The intermediate school offers nutritional programs and a broad range of academic support services to eligible students. The school remains open late for use by a variety of scholastic athletics, community organizations and athletics leagues.



Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 Educational Assessment:

Arcola Intermediate School was originally design to be organized departmentally, with science labs clustered on the second floor. The school is organized in grade-level clusters with eighth grade on the first floor and seventh grade on the second floor. The grade levels are organized into three multi-disciplinary teams, each. Eighth grade features math, literature and foreign language sections, scheduled based on interest and differentiated based on academic performance of eighth grade students. The clustering of science labs on the second floor frustrates eighth-grade team planning and necessitates a lot of student traffic between the first floor classrooms and second floor labs.



This school has nine science labs with teacher demonstration tables and lab preparation support space. Four of these labs are large capacity with full casework and fixed student lab stations. Five other labs are smaller and more flexible in their layout and function. Two of these five have been adapted for use as health classrooms. Principal Page cited reinforcing and improving science, technology, engineering and math STEM programming, as priorities going forward at Arcola Intermediate School. This cluster of science labs make expanded STEM programming possible without adding lab facilities.



The library, dubbed *The Source*, serves as the hub of media access for students. The Source is large in area (over 5000 SF), and centrally located in a visible location on the first floor. Two separate computer labs supplement the ample computer workstations within The Source. The school television studio and control room adjoin The Source, as well.

Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 Student Capacity Analysis:

Student capacity is calculated based on student teacher ratios and the number of available classrooms. Methacton School District restricts student to teacher ratio to 30 maximum, but targets 25, where possible.

We made judgments on spatial requirements for pupil support services, including special education services and special programming. Space allocated for special education and other pupil support services totals eleven full-size classrooms based on our observations, including:

- Life skills support classroom (on the first floor)
- Autistic support classroom (one classroom on the first floor)

- Learning support (each of six teams have a dedicated learning support classroom)
- Gifted IEP (two on the second floor)

Special education and pupil support classrooms are listed in a separate line item in Figure 12.1. We attribute no capacity to special education and pupil support classrooms. Based on the current 2014-15 (grades 7 to 8) enrollment of 777 students, eleven full size classrooms amounts to one full-size classroom per 71 students at Arcola Intermediate School 7-8. Six additional seminar-size spaces are used for various special education and pupil support programs.

We rate the total student capacity of Arcola Intermediate School 7-8 at 1105 students, summarized in Table 12.1

	<i>1st Floor</i>	<i>2nd Floor</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Students per Room</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Room Type</i>						
Science labs	0	7		7	25	175
Planetarium	1	0		1	25	25
Regular classrooms	14	12		26	25	650
Computer lab	2	0		2	25	50
Television studio	1	0		1	0	0
Music	4	0		4	25	100
Art	2	0		2	25	50
Family and Consumer Science	2	0		2	25	50
Tech Ed	2	0		2	25	50
Health	0	3		3	25	75
Physical Ed	3	0		3	25	75
Spec Educ/Math/Read/Gifted	6	5		11	0	0
Subtotal						1300
Utilization Factor:						85%
<i>Total School Capacity</i>						<i>1105</i>

Table 12.1

Tabulation of Arcola Intermediate School Spaces and Total Student Capacity

Student capacity includes regular classrooms, science labs, and certain special subjects (music, art, family and consumer science, technology education, health and physical education). We

attribute capacity to two special use spaces; planetarium (utilized for instruction) and computer lab (currently only used as sign-out labs). Total capacity of an intermediate school is factored by 85% to account for scheduling inefficiencies of teaching stations. Regular classrooms are only scheduled for five of the seven instructional periods during the school day (71% utilization rate, at best). To achieve an 85% utilization rate overall would require scheduling changes to better-utilize regular classrooms during the other two instructional periods, with 'floating teachers'.

13. Methacton High School

Methacton School District

Building Data:

Methacton High School
1001 Kriebel Mill Rd
Norristown PA 19403.1096

Lower Providence Township,
Montgomery County
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Judy Landis, Principal
X 25026
jlandis@methactonsd.org
610.489.5000 phone
610.489.8165 fax

Student capacity based on Thompson Associates Architects and Planners analysis:

- High school: 1952 students
- April 2 2007 PlanCon Part A rated capacity: 2230 students

Current enrollment: 1662 – 9th grade to 12th grade students (85% of 1952-student capacity)

Major use: high school

Date of construction: 1961 B; 1997, 2000 and 2004 A/R

Gross area: 344,330 square feet

Site area: 66 acres (site shared with Farina Education Center), generously sized, based on Pennsylvania Department of Education recommended site size of 47 acres.

Setting: Suburban

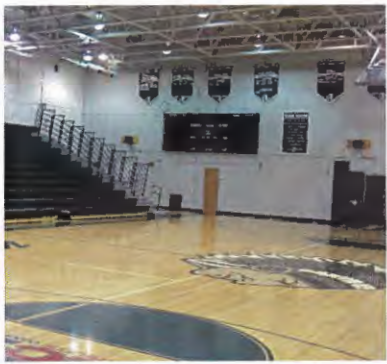


Methacton High School Narrative Summary:

Facility Summary: Methacton School District constructed Methacton High School in 1961, well before the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act ADA. The resultant two-story design has been upgraded through subsequent additions and renovations in 1997, 2000 and 2004. The west wing has an elevator providing access between the first and second floors. The east wing has its own elevator (the second floor of the east wing is not connected to the second floor of the west wing). Access throughout the first floor is complicated by intercommunicating steps, as building additions were terraced down toward the stadium in the north/rear of the building. Barrier-free access is provided with a series of chair lifts and two-sided elevators to get around these intercommunicating stairs.

Methacton School District constructed Methacton High School of durable materials that have stood the test of time. Methacton High School features low-maintenance terrazzo corridor floors and ceramic tile in toilet rooms, which remain in good to fair condition fifty years after their original installation. Mechanical/electrical systems require ongoing maintenance and replacement of individual components. Exterior masonry, particularly on the rear/north facades and the wood shop loading dock area, requires restoration to repair cracking and protect corroding steel lintels. Two aging modular classrooms are near the end of their useful life, requiring exterior siding and skirting repair or replacement.

The 2004 two-story addition created a courtyard, used as a unique outdoor learning center. The courtyard features an eco-pond used for student project-based learning. A 'breezeway' crosses the first floor corridors, assuring community first responders access to this courtyard. Security for the breezeway is provided with a rolling overhead door grille connected to signal systems to fail-safe open in an emergency.



School Organization and Zoning: At 344,330 square feet, Methacton High School is almost 8 acres under roof. With over half a mile of perimeter, security for over forty means of egress can be a challenge. Community use of Methacton High School for athletics, community meetings (including School Board meetings in the new large group instruction room) and performing arts introduces the public to all corners of the high school throughout evening hours.

Athletics and performing arts: The two-story addition in 2004 blocked direct access to the athletic department. Athletic activities require access through the east wing. Evening use of the main gym, boys gym, girls gym, wrestling gym, natatorium and associated boys and girls locker rooms requires access throughout the lower levels of the first floor. Evening use of performing arts facilities requires access to the west wing for band, orchestra, dance studio, chorus, stage and auditorium.

Math and science departments: The east wing houses the math and science departments, with the science and technology education departments occupying the second floor of the east wing. Expansion of biology lab capacity for 9th and 10th grade students required new construction in the two-story addition in 2004. These five biology labs, located on the second floor of the west wing, are isolated from the nine science labs located on the second floor of the east wing. Labs are modern and well-equipped with casework, fume hoods, lab preparation rooms and faculty demonstration tables.

Language arts and social studies: The west wing houses language arts and social studies, on two levels. The linear design of the high school and the thousand foot length end-to-end make timely class changes a challenge for Methacton High School students.



Methacton High School Educational Assessment:

Methacton High School is organized departmentally, with science labs clustered on the second floor of the east and west wing. Math classrooms are clustered on the first floor, below the science lab clusters. English, foreign language and social studies are clustered on the first and second floor of the west wing. Academic departments have instructional planning centers IPC located near their classroom clusters, for faculty use during planning periods and for itinerant teaching professionals (not otherwise assigned a classroom).



Departmental clustering necessitates a lot of student traffic among the east and west wings and the first and second floors. Existing bottlenecks, like one near the existing faculty dining room, impede students and cause traffic jams.



Special subjects include art, music, dance, health, family and consumer science, technology education, physical education. Special subjects are scattered throughout the school end-to-end, with most on the lower levels of the first floor. Computer science courses are offered in computer labs on east wing, second floor.



The library is located near the main entrance lobby of Methacton High School. The library is large in size with broad access to books and media in a variety of large and small group settings. The television studio features sophisticated video equipment and production capability.





Methacton High School Student Capacity Analysis:

Student capacity is calculated based on student teacher ratios and the number of available classrooms. Methacton School District restricts student to teacher ratio to 30 maximum, but targets 25, where possible.



We made judgments on spatial requirements for pupil support services, including special education services and special programming. Space allocated for special education and other pupil support services totals ten full-size classrooms based on our observations, including:

- Autistic support (four classrooms on the first floor)
- English-language learners (second floor)
- Gifted IEP classroom (second floor)
- SSR (two classrooms on the first floor)
- Alternative education, learning support and crisis intervention (located in two classrooms and an additional modular classroom near the gym)
- In-school suspension (on the first floor of the east wing)



Based on the current 2013-14 (grades 9 to 12) enrollment of 1662 students, this amounts to one full-size classroom per 166 students at Methacton High School. Additional seminar-size spaces used for various special education and pupil support programs are scattered throughout the school.

Student capacity includes regular classrooms, computer labs, science labs, and certain special subjects (music, art family and consumer science, technology education, health and physical education). We attribute capacity to two special use spaces, utilized for instruction; driver education and dance studio. Total capacity of a high school is factored by 85% to account for scheduling inefficiencies of teaching stations. We rate the total student capacity of Methacton High School at 1952 students summarized in Table 13.1. The total of 'regular classrooms' in Table 13.1 includes full-size classrooms used for special education and pupil support services. Special education and pupil support classrooms are deducted in a separate line item.

	<i>1st Floor</i>	<i>2nd Floor</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Students per Room</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Room Type</i>						
Science labs	0	13		13	24	312
Regular classrooms	37	33		70	25	1750
Computer lab	3	0		3	0	0
Television studio	1	0		1	15	15
Music	3	0		3	25	75
Art	4	0		4	20	80
Family and consumer science	2	0		2	20	40
Technology education	2	0		2	25	50
Health	2	0		2	25	50
Driver education	1	0		1	25	25
Physical education/natatorium/dance studio	6	0		6	25	150
Special education/pupil support classrooms	(8)	(2)		(10)	25	(250)
Subtotal						2297
Utilization Factor:						85%
<i>Total Student Capacity</i>						<i>1952</i>

***Table 13.1
Tabulation of Methacton High School Spaces and Total Student Capacity***

14. Planning Team Credentials

Methacton School District

James R Thompson AIA has been the Principal Architect for over one hundred projects over the past 19 years. He has personally assessed over twenty million square feet of public school facilities. His relevant experience includes over sixteen Pennsylvania district-wide planning studies, including:

- Easton Area School District
- School District of Springfield Township
- Pottsville School District
- School District of Cheltenham Township
- Upper St Clair School District
- State College Elementary Facilities
- Wilkes-Barre Area School District

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Master of Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University. Jim currently serves as Harrisburg City School Board Vice President as well as Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee Chair. He serves the Central Pennsylvania Architects Foundation Fund as past-President of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He recruits local students for MIT in his role on the MIT Educational Council. He served as Chair of the Mt Lebanon Municipal Planning Board, Board Director for the Mt Lebanon Extended Day Program and President of the Board of Trustees of the DePaul School for Hearing and Speech; a school for profoundly-deaf children

Jonathan F Thomas Associate AIA LEED^{AP} BD+C believes that successful architectural design improves the lives of clients and the community at large. Jonathan holds a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Maryland, a Master of Architecture from the Boston Architectural College and a Master of Business Administration from Shippensburg University.

BIM Specialist: Jonathan provides broad technical expertise in building information modeling and graphic design. He draws upon his current experience as Adjunct faculty for both York College of Technology and Harrisburg Area Community College; offering classes in computer-aided design, BIM and architectural design. Jonathan is a Revit Certified Professional.

Barrier-free Design Specialist: Jonathan holds two certifications from the International Code Council; Accessibility Inspector/Plan Examiner and Commercial Building Inspector. Jonathan's expertise is invaluable for on-site surveys, code analysis and barrier-free design for accessibility.