

SIMSBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
December 10, 2024
BOE Conference Room
6:30 p.m.
AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. PUBLIC AUDIENCE
- IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOE COMMUNICATIONS
- V. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
 - A. Approval of Minutes of November 12, 2024 Meeting EXHIBIT I
 - B. Approval of Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement
Between the Simsbury Board of Education and the
National Association of Government Employees
Local RI-425 EXHIBIT II
 - C. Approval of Capital Improvement Plan EXHIBIT III
 - D. Acceptance of Gift from R&D Dynamics Corp. EXHIBIT IV
 - F. Acceptance of Gift to Tariffville School EXHIBIT V
 - G. Acceptance of Gift from Simsbury Social Services EXHIBIT VI
 - H. Acceptance of Tariffville and Central Roof Projects EXHIBIT VII
 - I. Approval of 2025 BOE Meeting Schedule EXHIBIT VIII
- VI. INFORMATION AND REPORTS
 - A. SPS In-District Pupil Services Program EXHIBIT IX
 - B. NESDEC Enrollment Projections EXHIBIT X
 - C. HVAC Inspection Reports EXHIBIT XI
- VII. PUBLIC AUDIENCE
- VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS
 - A. Next Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 14, 2025,
BOE Conference Room

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www.simsburytv.org.*

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Record of Proceedings

Regular Meeting

November 12, 2024

Mr. Jeff Tindall called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Latimer Lane School.

Roll Call:

Members present: Mmes. Jen Batchelar, Lydia Tedone, Tara Willerup and Jessica Parise. Messrs. Jeff Tindall, Brian Watson and Josh Falco. Sharon Thomas arrived at 6:36 p.m.

Also present: Superintendent Matt Curtis, Assistant Superintendent Sue Homrok-Lemke, Assistant Superintendent Neil Sullivan, Director of Infrastructure & Technology Jason Casey, and Recording Secretary Katie Wilde.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

None.

Public Audience

COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOE COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Parise reported on the completion of the Latimer Lane School renovation project and the incredible facility and use of resources. Mr. Watson echoed her comments. Ms. Tedone noted her children attended Latimer Lane School in the 1990s and it will be heartwarming and nostalgic for her kids to see the school. She stated that she is attending the CABE/CAPSS convention this week. Ms. Tedone stated at the delegate assembly their platform for the legislative session will be discussed. She noted her work with NSBA and the Department of Education's legislative priorities at the federal level.

Communications

Ms. Lemke reported on the November 5 full day of professional development with inspirational keynote speaker Deacon Art Miller. The day gave teachers the opportunity to work on their individual professional growth plans. Mr. Sullivan stated that the Latimer Lane School Open House will be held on Saturday, 10:00-1:00 and is open to all members of the public.

Ms. Thomas reported that the last couple of Policy Committee meetings have been cancelled, and noted that policy is important work for the board. Mr. Tindall expressed immense gratitude to the town at large for their support of the school project and education in town. He reported that the Finance Committee has met twice discussing the work of the budget season. Mr. Curtis noted that the SHS field hockey team is playing in the state quarterfinals this evening.

RECOGNITION

Ms. Lemke introduced Melanie Meehan, Lisa Jacobs, Kristin Fitch and Frank Zuliani. She noted that Beth Scudder and Rebecca Warchut are unable to attend. Ms. Lemke stated that this outstanding group of educators has worked to create a strategy to ignite the passion of student writers. Their proposal to present to the National Counsel of Teachers of English was accepted and they will be presenting in Boston next week. Challenged by shortened time for writing instruction, this group has met monthly for the past 3 years to brainstorm ideas and create writing initiatives

Recognition

for students.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes of October 22, 2024 Meeting

Mr. Watson: MOVE to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2024 meeting.

Ms. Parise: Seconded. So moved.

B. Approval of Policy Revisions

Ms. Thomas: MOVE to adopt the revised policy, 4209 – Prohibition of Sex Discrimination, Including Sex-Based Harassment, effective November 12, 2024.

Mr. Falco: Seconded. So moved.

Ms. Thomas: MOVE to adopt the revised policy 5145.51 – Prohibition of Sex Discrimination, Including Sex-Based Harassment, effective November 12, 2024.

Ms. Parise: Seconded. So moved.

C. Acceptance of Gift from Central School PTO

Ms. Tedone: MOVE that the proposed gift of \$3,400 to Central School by the Central School Parent-Teacher Organization be approved.

Ms. Parise: Seconded. So moved.

D. Cancellation of November 26, 2024 Regular Meeting

Ms. Batchelar: MOVE to cancel the Board of Education meeting scheduled on November 26, 2024.

Ms. Willerup: Seconded. So moved.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A. Sustainability Committee Report

Mr. Curtis introduced Mark Scully, Chair of the Simsbury Sustainability Committee. Mr. Scully stated the primary role of the committee is to advise the BOS and BOE on sustainability policy for the town and public schools. He noted the members of the committee. Mr. Scully discussed the success of the Sustainability Fair held in May and pointed out the monthly Sustainability Newsletter.

Mr. Scully addressed the Sustainability Committee's vision to integrate sustainability into every aspect of town life. Currently they are focused on energy and waste. The committee has developed 4 steps to address energy usage in town: (1) promoting energy efficiency in new and existing buildings, (2) encouraging the deployment of

Approval of Minutes of October 22, 2024

Approval of Policy Revisions

Gift from Central School PTO

Cancellation of Nov. 26, 2025 meeting

Sustainability Committee Report

solar energy in town, (3) transitioning heating and cooling to electric heat pumps, and (4) transitioning transportation to electric vehicles. Mr. Scully stated that the greatest opportunity for energy conservation is the addition of solar when doing roof replacements.

Mr. Scully addressed waste in Simsbury, noting that the majority of waste in town is shipped out of state. He stated that he has been working with Principal Evans at Squadron Line School to address this issue, and asked that all schools educate their students about waste. The committee's goal is to meet the statewide goal of recycling 60% of waste.

Mr. Scully addressed the committee's next steps. These include support from the BOS and BOE on their plan, approval of the plan and implementation of the areas addressed in the plan. Ms. Thomas asked if committee members have gotten inside of the schools to talk with students. Mr. Scully responded that they are only involved with Squadron Line, but are working on setting up a conversation with the Nutrition Services Director. Mr. Curtis stated that the committee's priorities will be a focus point in the development of the new strategic plan. Mr. Scully stated the committee will be asking for support again in the upcoming budget process.

B. Elementary Curriculum Report

Ms. Lemke introduced Director of Elementary Curriculum, Betsy Gunsalus and Math Coach, Lisa Smith. Ms. Gunsalus addressed SBA ELA performance for grades 3-6, stating that 78% of students met or exceeded goal. There was significant improvement in grade 3 and cohort growth in grades 4 and 5. Ms. Gunsalus discussed the team approach in using data to look at strengths and where we need to grow.

Ms. Smith addressed SBA Math scores for grades 3-6, stating that 76% of students met or exceeded goal. She noted the 2% growth in the past 3 years and the addition of spiral review, coming back to skills learned earlier in the year, that has improved assessment performance. Ms. Smith stated that those students who piloted Think!Math last year demonstrated increased performance.

Ms. Gunsalus addressed SBA Science, noting the slight drop in grade 5 performance. She stated that 71% of 5th graders met or exceeded goal. Ms. Gunsalus stated that we are working to calibrate instruction, provide more NGSS practice and enhance science lessons so they are better aligned with NGSS.

Ms. Gunsalus discussed elementary priorities for the school year: Think!Mathematics, Science of Reading aligned curriculum, Special Education Collaboration, and Everyday Speech K-6. Ms. Smith stated that the math coaches met in the spring and developed the goals for math this year: ensuring lesson structure is evident in all classrooms; plan and coach consistently with grade level teams including special education teacher partners; refine assessment practices; communicate and partner with families; and monitor student achievement and respond accordingly.

Ms. Gunsalus addressed the Science of Reading, stating the guidelines are based on research and the Vision of a Graduate. The new requirements from the state resulted in forming a district committee to vet the programs recommended by the

Elementary
Curriculum
Report

state. The next step is to pilot a unit in classrooms before making a final determination on the curriculum.

Ms. Gunsalus stated that Everyday Speech includes 2 SEL lessons per week in grades K-5, utilizing the five Casel competencies. Special Education collaboration is more systemic with classroom teachers and special education teachers looking at data for all students and planning collaboratively. Ms. Gunsalus noted that managing the pace of change for teachers, students and families is a challenge. She stated there may be a budgetary impact due to the new materials needed for the Science of Reading curriculum.

Mr. Tindall asked if we are reaching out to parents as to what they're seeing at home relative to the Science of Reading. Ms. Gunsalus responded that changes to curriculum are shared in the Back to School slides and there are discussions about talking at parent nights on how to support literacy at home. Mr. Tindall asked about the transition in math from grade 6 to grade 7. Ms. Gunsalus stated that there was a grade 6 teacher on the math committee, and 6th grade teachers spend time with 5th grade teachers to coordinate the transition.

Ms. Thomas asked what measures are used to assess against our goals. Ms. Gunsalus responded that she provides written goals to Mr. Curtis and Ms. Lemke and performance is measured against these goals. In assessing students, teachers look at patterns, bands of students, mastery of grade level standards and hold meetings with the principal. Ms. Thomas asked how we are addressing the science performance. Ms. Gunsalus stated it is being addressed through professional development, noting that multiple years of content could appear on an assessment. Ms. Lemke pointed out that as our students move through middle school and high school we continue to rank #1 and #2 on NGSS.

Ms. Parise asked whether we have reached out to other districts as to what they have chosen for their Science of Reading curriculum. Ms. Gunsalus stated that through her network and Ms. Lemke's network they have reached out to many districts and they are using a lot of different things.

C. Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Curtis stated that the Finance Committee discussed the first year of the capital plan. With revaluation and a significant tax increase to residents, the decision was made to adjust our capital dollars and push some projects out a year.

Mr. Casey stated that the HJMS roof replacement has been postponed to a later date. The intention is to replace the roof in sections over the course of 3 years. The SHS grass field reallocation project received updated quotes and due to ADA access and the level of wetland work, the cost is significantly higher than anticipated so we will reevaluate looking at other field choices. Mr. Curtis stated that the goal was to maximize practice space, but the cost to develop these fields is equivalent to building a turf field. He noted that we need to look at the capital work done by Tecton and come back next year with a fresh plan.

Mr. Casey addressed security improvements, noting that this is funded in the capital budget every other year. The focus for next year would be updating security cameras. Mr. Casey stated that paving and line striping was moved into the capital

Capital Improvement Plan

budget on an every other year funding basis. These funds will allow us to maintain sidewalks, curbs, parking lots, and paved playground areas throughout the district. Mr. Curtis noted that with the small CNR allocation we can't get these projects done.

Ms. Thomas asked if security is up to date across the district. Mr. Casey responded yes, that these funds will be used for enhancements and improvements to further security.

D. 2025-26 Budget Calendar

Mr. Curtis noted that the timing of the budget workshop has been changed until after he presents the superintendent's budget.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Lori Boyko, 15 Oakhurst Road, noted the comment by the Chair at the last meeting relative to welcoming public comment. She stated that parent participation is not appreciated at committee meetings. Ms. Boyko noted the concerns she has stated to the board during public audience and the fact that the board does not discuss controversial issues. She stated that board policies infringe on students, and the board exhibits indifference. Ms. Boyko urged the board to address concerns thoroughly and openly.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Willerup: MOVE to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Ms. Tedone: Seconded. So moved.

Sharon Thomas
Secretary

Katie Wilde
Recording Secretary

2025-26 Budget Calendar

Public Audience

Adjournment

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

DATE: December 10, 2024

RE: **Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Simsbury Board of Education and the National Association of Governmental Employees Local R1-245 effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027**

The Security Guard staff of the Simsbury Public Schools have formed a new bargaining unit, and the negotiations leading to a new collective bargaining agreement have been completed by the National Association of Governmental Employees (NAGE) and the Board of Education. This agreement, which is subject to ratification by the Board of Education, has been ratified by the National Association of Governmental Employees Local R1-245. Highlights of the agreement are as follows:

1. Duration of Agreement

A three-year agreement effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 has been negotiated. Wages were initially adjusted by \$500 in order to close wage gap with a neighboring community.

2. Wages

The parties have agreed to a 2.5% general wage increase in 2024-25, 3.0% in 2025-26, and 2.5% in 2026-27. All earned increments shall be granted.

3. Insurance and Pension Benefits

Medical Insurance

- CIGNA High Deductible Health Plan Employee Contributions:
 - 2024-25: 19.5%
 - 2025-26: 20%
 - 2026-27: 20.5%
 - One member grandfathered in CIGNA HMO Plan with same contributions as above.
- The Board will implement an exclusive specialty pharmacy program for medications used to treat complex medical conditions.
- The Board will implement CIGNA Health Matters Preferred Model.

Dental Insurance

- MetLife coverage with employee contribution of 5% for individual coverage and 15% for dependent coverage.
- Preferred Dentist Plan with \$1500 annual benefit limit.

Life & Long Term Disability Insurance

- Basic Life Insurance Benefit of \$25,000 at no cost with option to purchase supplemental life of two times annual salary up to \$100,000 on a 50/50 Board/Employee shared cost basis.
- Long-Term Disability plan available with a benefit of \$1500 per month or maximum of 60% of employee's salary, whichever is less. Employee pays cost based on salary.

Vision Plan

- The Board will offer a “voluntary vision plan” (100% employee paid) to benefit-eligible employees and their dependents. In order to be eligible, employees must work a minimum of 30 hours.

4. Leave Provisions:

- Employees will receive 10 illness days per year to be accrued to a maximum of 30. Can utilize up to 10 illness days for family death or illness.
- Employees will receive 4 Paid Time Off (PTO) days – not cumulative

BOARD MOTION

“MOVE that the Board of Education ratify the proposed changes in the collective bargaining agreement between the Simsbury Board of Education and the National Association of Governmental Employees Local R1-245 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.”

MTC:cdf

MEMORANDUM TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew Curtis
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: December 10, 2024

RE: Approval of Capital Improvement Plan

Attached you will find the Board of Education Projects for the 2025/26 fiscal year. This budget demonstrates the immediate needs of our schools and the importance of continuing our renovation discussions.

The project plan addresses the following 2 areas:

Security Improvements – This is funded every other year. It has historically been used for items such as security cameras, glass film, and bollards. This year the focus will be on improvements to the camera and access control systems (fob readers, door locks, etc.).

Paving & Line Striping – These previously separate items were combined into a single budget for flexibility and simplicity. This will allow us to maintain the sidewalks, curbs, parking lots, and paved playground areas throughout the district.

With the Town Charter requirement of February 15 as the Board of Education submission deadline of our Capital Improvement Plan to the Town Manager and Board of Selectman, the administration requests action on the following motion:

“MOVE that the Board of Education Capital Improvement Plan for the 2025-2026 be approved, as presented.”

**Simsbury Board of Education
Six Year Capital Improvement Program
Fiscal Year 2025/26 - Fiscal Year 2030/31**

	<u>FY25/26</u>
District Wide	
District Security Improvements	250,000
District paving & line striping / painting	600,000
<hr/>	
Total District Wide	850,000
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TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS	<u><u>850,000</u></u>
FUNDING:	
Bonding	850,000
Grants & Reimbursements	
TOTAL FUNDING	<u><u>850,000</u></u>

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
DATE: December 10, 2024
RE: Gift to the Simsbury Public Schools / SHS Robotics Club

In keeping with the Board of Education Policy 2311, Gifts from the Public, Board approval is required for any gift to the school system which exceeds \$1,500.

The administration is requesting Board of Education approval of a gift to the Simsbury High School Robotics Team from the R & D Dynamics Corporation of \$3,000 to be used to purchase supplies and cover expenses incurred by the Robotics Club.

MOVE that the proposed gift to the SHS Robotics Club at Simsbury High School from the R & D Dynamics Corporation totaling \$3,000 be approved."

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
DATE: December 10, 2024
RE: Gift to the Simsbury Public Schools / Tariffville School

In keeping with the Board of Education Policy 2311, Gifts from the Public, Board approval is required for any gift to the school system which exceeds \$1,500.

The administration is requesting Board of Education approval of a gift to Tariffville School from an anonymous donor of \$2,000 to be used for holiday support for Tariffville families.

“MOVE that the proposed gift of \$2,000 from an anonymous donor to Tariffville School be approved.”

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Matthew T. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools

DATE: December 10, 2024

RE: Acceptance of Donation from Simsbury Community & Social Services

In keeping with the Board of Education Policy 2311, Gifts from the Public, Board approval is required for any gift to the school system which exceeds \$1,500.

The administration is requesting Board of Education approval of a donation to Simsbury High School from Simsbury Community & Social Services of \$2,500 to cover the cost of installing vape detectors at Simsbury High School.

“MOVE that the proposed gift of \$2,500 to Simsbury High School by Simsbury Community & Social Services be approved.”

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
RE: Acceptance of the Tariffville and Central Roof Projects
DATE: December 10, 2024

The Connecticut Department of Administrative Services, in cooperation with the Department of Education, requires that the local Board of Education formally accept school construction projects as complete as a component of the process of filing the final grant forms. Once the documentation is filed, the projects undergo a state audit review and the final grant payment is issued to the town.

The reroofing and related work at Tariffville Elementary School project (128-0112 RR) and Central Elementary school project (128-0113 RR) both need Board of Education approval. They have both been approved as complete by the Public Building Committee and the final grant application forms and documentation are in the process of being filed with the state.

To file for the applicable state construction grants, the administration requests adoption of the following motions:

“MOVED that the Simsbury Board of Education accepts as complete the reroofing and related work at Tariffville Elementary School project (128-0112 RR) and authorizes the acceptance of the school building grants.”

“MOVED that the Simsbury Board of Education accepts as complete the reroofing and related work at Central Elementary School project (128-0113 RR) and authorizes the acceptance of the school building grants.”

/kdw

EXHIBIT VIII

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew T. Curtis
Superintendent of Schools
RE: Approval of 2025 Board of Education Meeting Schedule
DATE: December 10, 2024

The Freedom of Information Act of the Connecticut General Statutes requires all town agencies to file with the Town Clerk on or before January 31 of any given year the meeting schedule for that calendar year. Board of Education By-Laws state that "regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month."

Below are the scheduled meeting dates for 2025 that coincide with the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The time of the meeting will be set for 6:30 p.m.

January 14	Board Conf. Room	July 8	Board Conf. Room
January 28	Board Conf. Room	July 22	Board Conf. Room
February 11	Board Conf. Room	August 12	Board Conf. Room
February 25	Board Conf. Room	August 26	Board Conf. Room
March 11	Board Conf. Room	Sept. 9	Board Conf. Room
March 25	Board Conf. Room	Sept. 23	Board Conf. Room
April 8	Board Conf. Room	October 14	Board Conf. Room
April 22	Board Conf. Room	October 28	Board Conf. Room
May 13	Board Conf. Room	November 11	Board Conf. Room
May 27	Board Conf. Room	November 25	Board Conf. Room
June 10	Board Conf. Room	December 9	Board Conf. Room
June 24	Board Conf. Room		

"MOVE that the Board of Education set their 2025 meeting schedule as outlined in the December 10, 2024 board exhibit."

MTC:kdw

TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matthew Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
DATE: December 10, 2024
RE: SPS In-District Pupil Services Program

The district has been exploring properties for purchase in order to open an in-district, self-contained, behavioral program to support special education students who require a more supported and smaller environment. Given the continued increasing complexity of needs of our special education students as well as rising out of district tuition costs, the district is seeking ways to best support our students' needs while containing the cost to do so.

The largest area of out of district placements with like needs is in the area of complex emotional disability/significant behavioral needs. The property at 2 Farms Village Rd would be an ideal location to house an in-district program given its location, size, and layout. The location being near the high school allows for efficiencies in transportation (central in town, shared rides with secondary routes) and provision of meals.

The property would allow for the program to eventually support up to 25 students with significant needs and limited construction would be needed in order to provide adequate classroom space. The building is set up well for 4-5 classrooms, multiple offices for individual clinical services or instruction as well as meeting spaces. The district has planned a phased approach to the opening of the program in order to ensure the programming is sound and supportive to our students needs while also ensuring responsible cost containment.

/kdw

MEMORANDUM TO: Members of the Board of Education
FROM: Matt Curtis
Superintendent of Schools
DATE: December 10, 2024
RE: NESDEC Enrollment Report

Overview

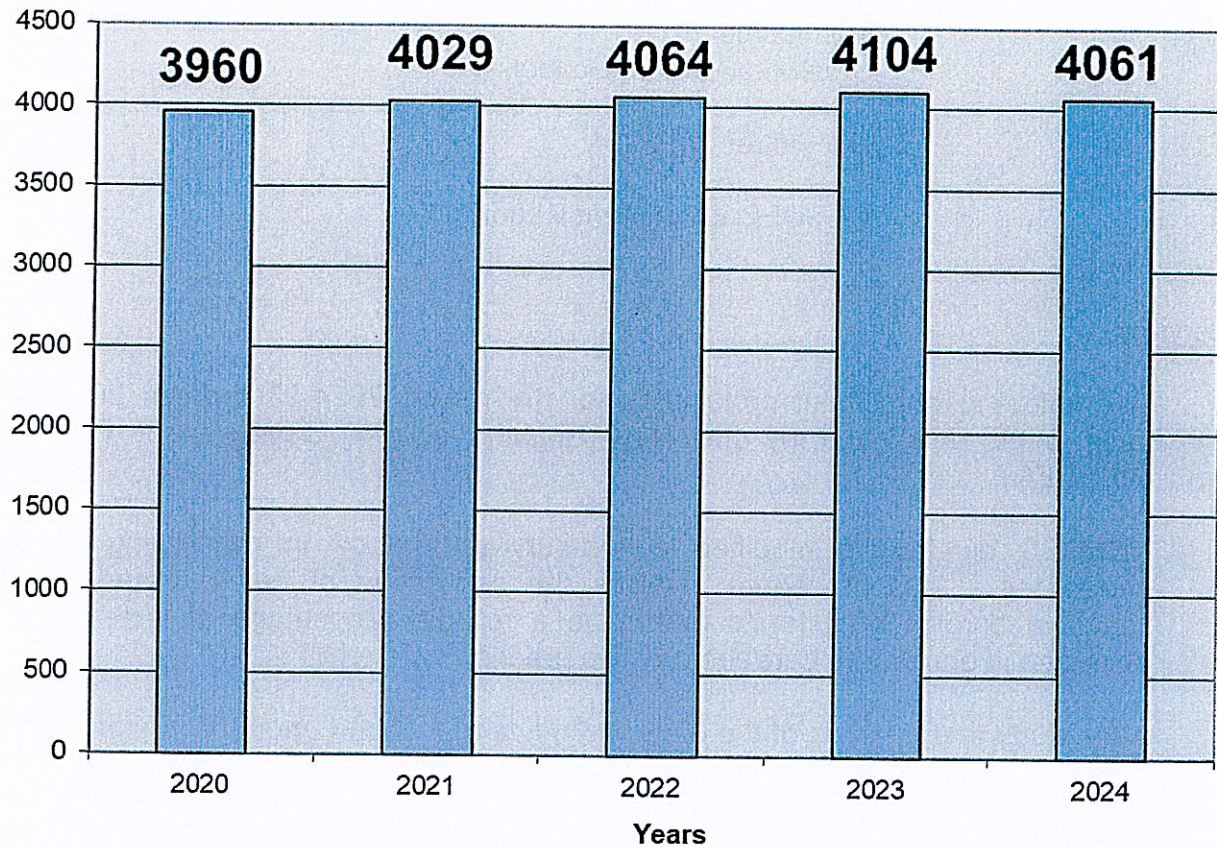
The following enrollment projections for the period 2024-25 through 2029-30 have been developed by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC).

NESDEC employs a modified cohort-survival method in developing these projections. This procedure involves the calculation of ratios, based upon historical enrollment data, to determine a reliable percentage of increase or decrease in enrollment between any two grades.

After study and analysis of the historical ratios and based upon the assumptions above and those regarding births, migration rates, and retention rates, ratios most indicative of future growth patterns are determined for each pair of grades. Each ratio represents the cumulative effect of the following factors:

- Real estate turnover.
- New residential construction.
- Migration, in or out, of the schools.
- Births to residents.
- Retention in the same grade.

I. Table I--October 1 Enrollment History: 2020-21 through 2024-25

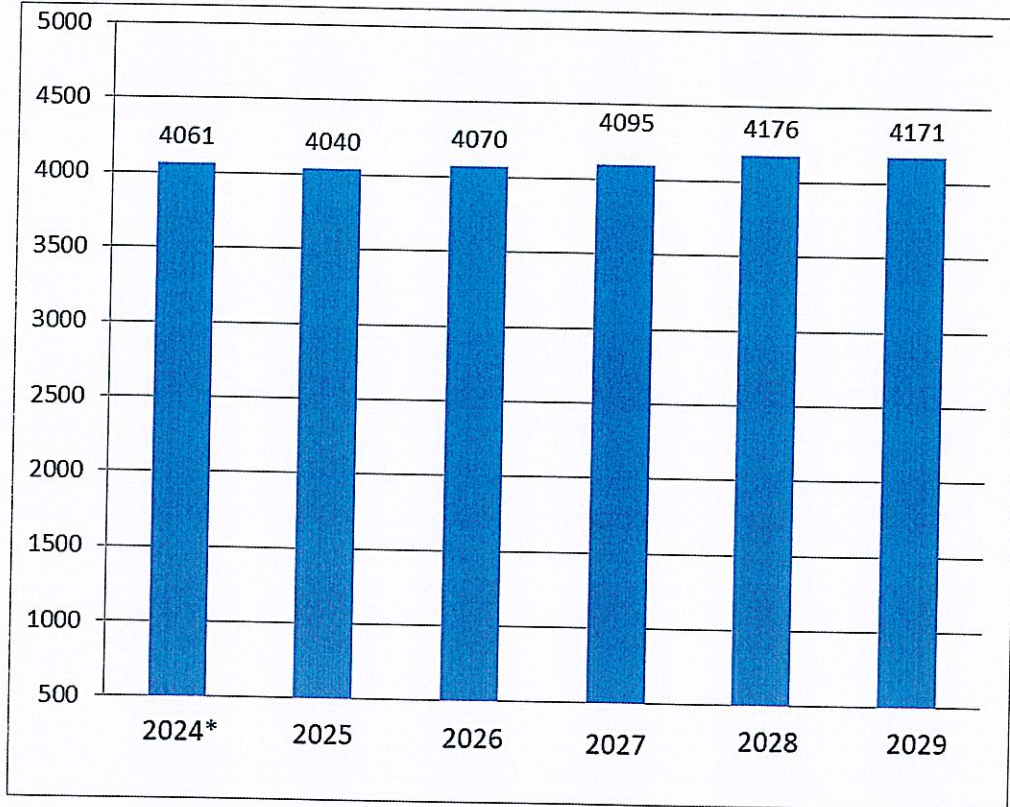


Comments:

- Table I illustrates that K-12 enrollment has increased from 3960 students in 2020 to 4061 students in 2024; this represents a total of 101 students or 2.55%.
- In grades K-6 there were 2018 students in 2020 and 2145 students in 2024. This marks an increase of 127 students or 6.3%
- In grades 7-8 there were 633 students in 2020 and 687 students in 2024. This marks an increase of 54 students or 8.5%.
- In grades 9-12 there were 1309 students in 2020 and 1229 students in 2024. This marks a decrease of 80 students or 6.1%.

II. Table II -- 5-year Projected Enrollments K-12: 2024-25 through 2029-30

Note: 2024-25 enrollment numbers are actual October 1, 2024 data

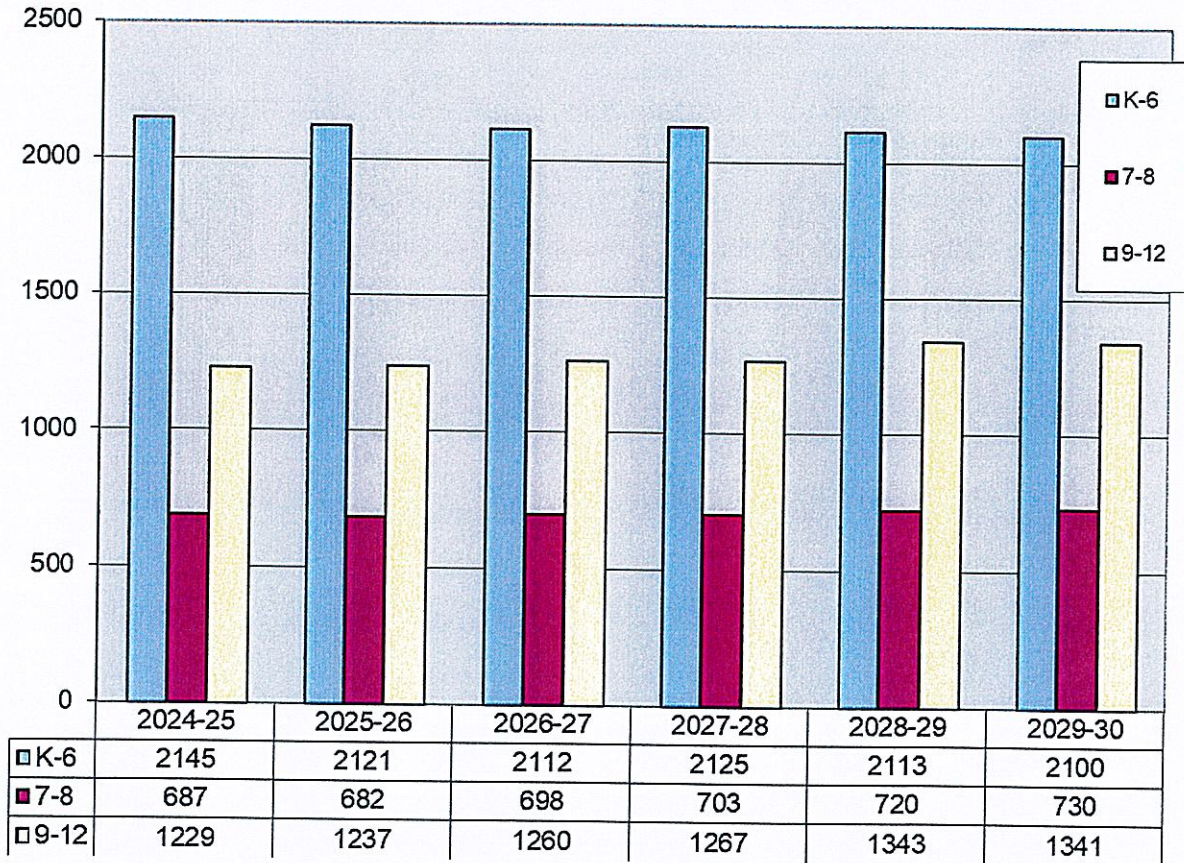


Comments:

Table II suggests that enrollment in kindergarten through grade 12 is expected to decrease by 21 students for school year 2025-26. Over the next five years, K-12 enrollment is expected to increase by 110 students. The present enrollment of 4061 students is expected to increase to 4171 students by 2029-30, an overall increase of 2.7% in the student population.

III. Table III -- 5-year Projected Enrollments by Grade Configuration: 2024-25 through 2029-30

Note: 2024-25 enrollment numbers are actual October 1, 2024 data



Comments:

- As illustrated in Table III, enrollment in grades K-6 is projected to decrease by 24 students by school year 2025-26. Over the next five years, K-6 enrollment is expected to decrease by 45 students. The present K-6 enrollment of 2145 is expected to decrease to 2100 by 2029-30, an overall decrease of 2.1% in the student population.
- Table III suggests that enrollment of Henry James Memorial School will decrease by 5 students in 2025-26. Over the next five years, 7-8 enrollment is expected to increase by 43. The present 7-8 enrollment of 687 is expected to increase to 730 by 2029-30, an increase of 6.3%
- Table III suggests that enrollment at Simsbury High School is expected to increase by 8 students in 2025-26. Over the next five years, 9-12 enrollment is expected to increase by 112 students, an increase of 9.1%.

IV. School by School Enrollment Projections

Central School:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	395	383	389	394	394	402

- Central School is projected to decrease by 12 students in 2025. Five-year projections indicate an increase of 7 students or 1.8%.

Latimer Lane:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	475	466	460	461	452	450

- Latimer Lane School is projected to decrease by 9 students or 1.9% in 2025. Five-year projections indicate a decrease of 25 students or 5.3%.

Note: These projections do not include preschool enrollment, which is 35 students (full- or part- time) in 2024-25.

Squadron Line School:

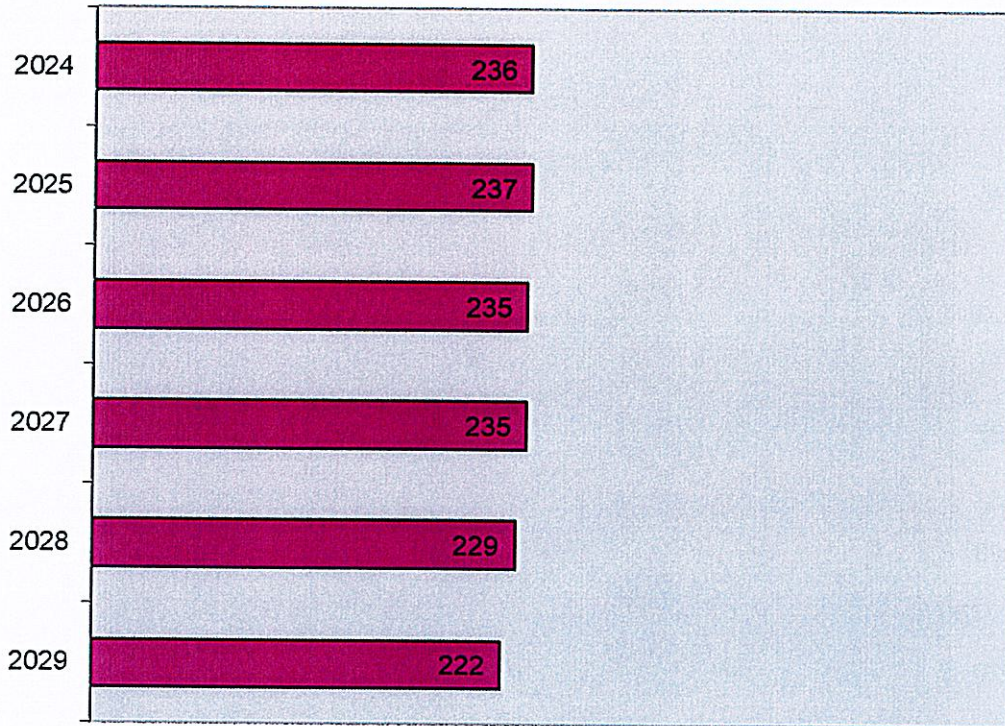


	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	668	670	661	670	671	664

- Squadron Line School is projected to remain flat in 2025. Five-year projections indicate a slight decrease of 4 students.

Note: These projections do not include preschool enrollment, which is 82 students (full- or part- time) in 2024-25.

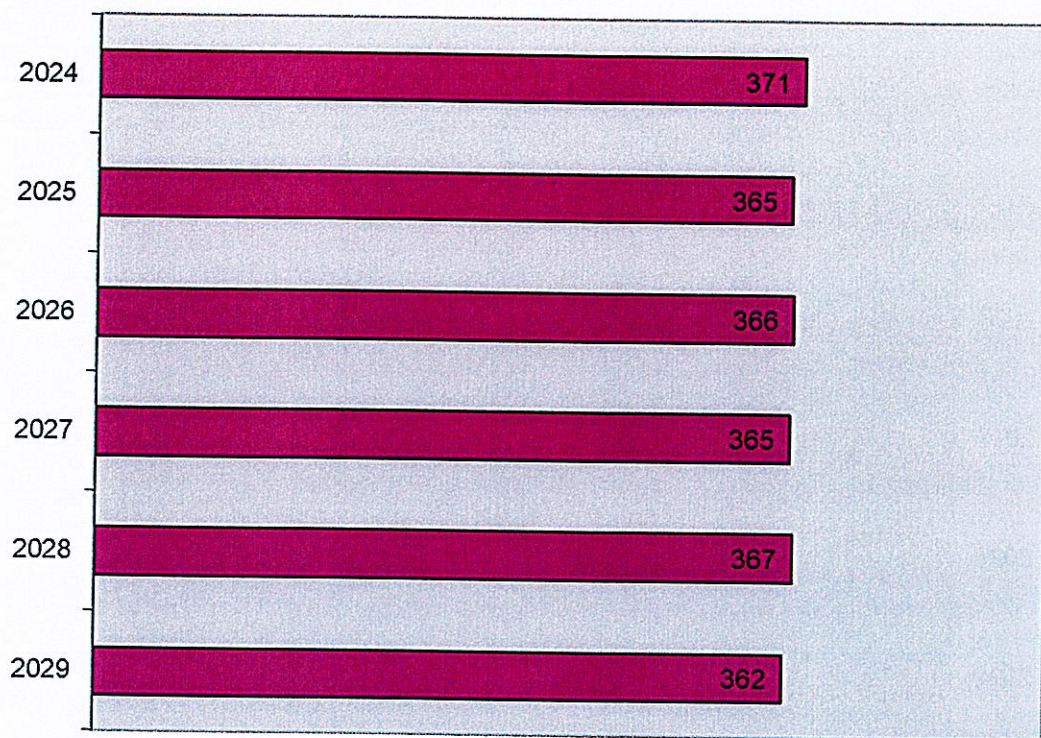
Tariffville School:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	236	237	235	235	229	222

- Tariffville School is projected to remain flat in 2025. Five-year projections indicate a decrease of 14 students, or 5.9%.

Tootin' Hills School:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	371	365	366	365	367	362

- Tootin' Hills School is projected to decrease by 6 students or 1.6% in 2025. Five-year projections indicate a decrease of 9 students, or 2.4%.

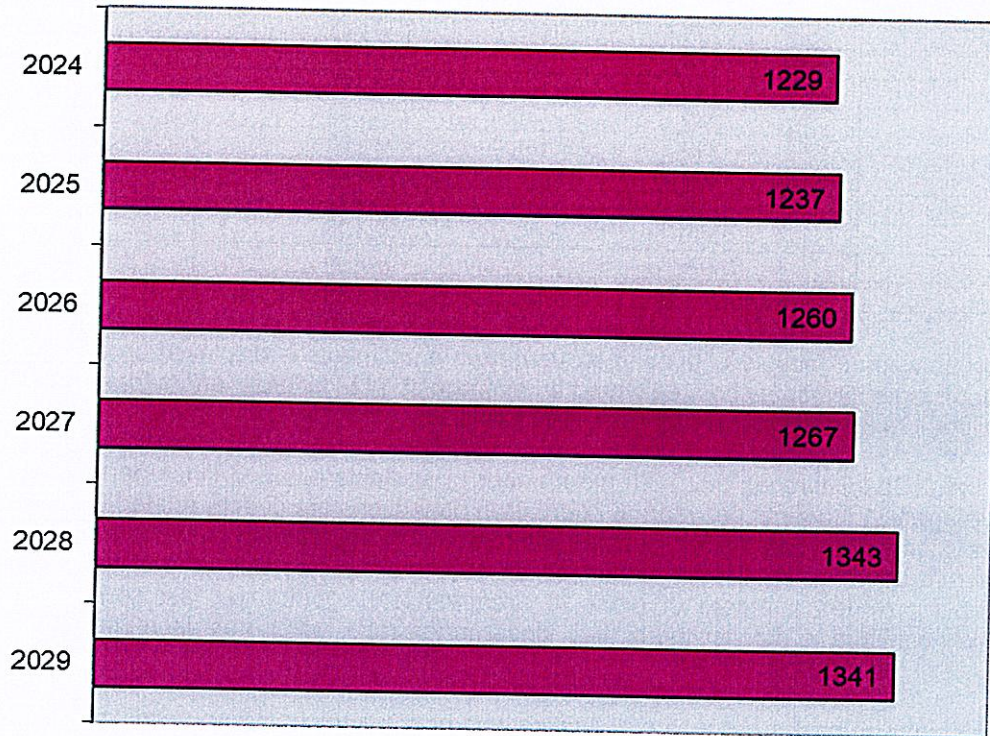
Henry James Memorial School:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	687	682	698	703	720	730

- Henry James Memorial School is projected to slightly decrease by 5 students for 2025. Five-year projections indicate an increase of 43 students or 6.3%.

Simsbury High School:



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Enrollment	1229	1237	1260	1267	1343	1341

- Simsbury High School is projected to increase by 8 students in 2025. Five-year projections indicate an increase of 112 students or 9.1%.

**V. Historical & Projected (P) Enrollments Birth to Kindergarten
(School-Year 2020-21 through 2029-30)**

Birth Year	# Births	Year Students Entered K	K Enrollment
2015	195	2020-21	252
2016	178	2021-22	303
2017	191	2022-23	294
2018	230	2023-24	275
2019	210	2024-25	260
2020	206	2025-26	251 (P)
2021	234	2026-27	285 (P)
2022	240	2027-28	292 (P)
2023	246	2028-29	299 (P)
2024	227 (P)	2029-30	276 (P)

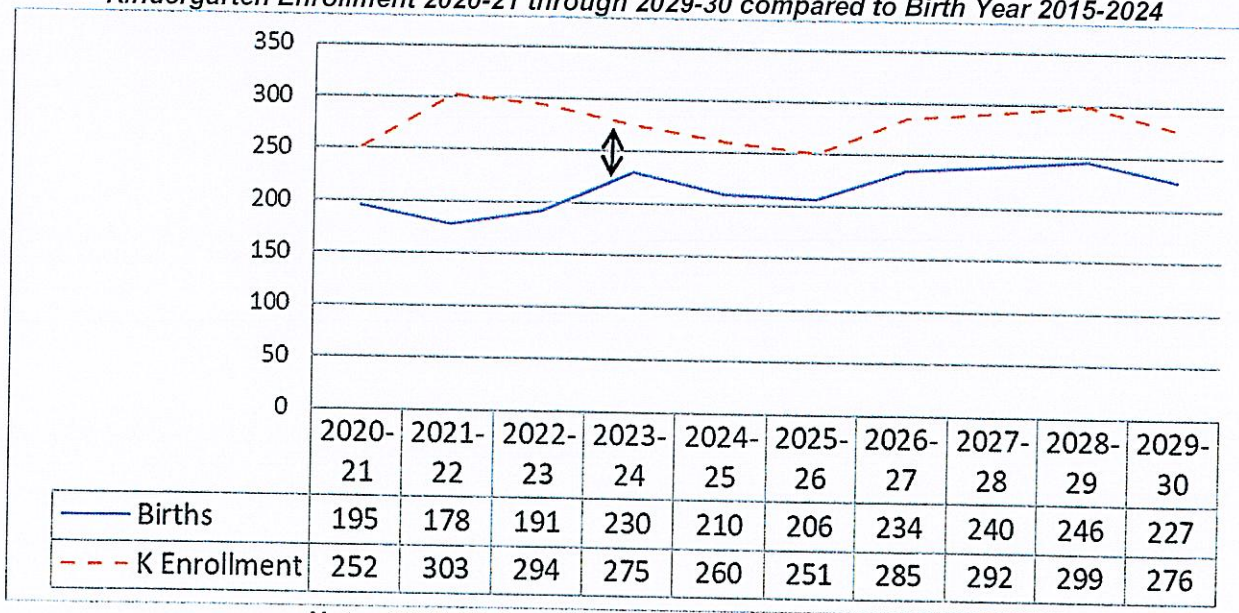
The relationship between Simsbury births and Kindergarten enrollments is displayed on the table above. Over the past four years, Simsbury has registered an average of 142 kindergarteners for every 100 births. This fall there were 124 kindergarteners for every 100 births.

During the period 2025-26 through 2029-30, the number of students entering kindergarten each year is projected to average 231 students per year. Kindergarten projections are directly related to the number of births to area residents five years earlier, coupled with data on in-migration of students new to Simsbury. Since these factors serve as the primary influence on enrollment projections, it is of value to examine them. This table provides a record of births to area residents during the last several years. The administration will continue to monitor the birth-to-kindergarten ratio, which has decreased slightly in the last few years.

This year, consistent with past practice, the annual census of pre-school children residing in Simsbury will be undertaken. Since the number of students eligible to enroll in kindergarten each year ultimately drives enrollments at the other grades, the importance of obtaining accurate census information cannot be underestimated. The data derived from the census provides additional information for future planning.

Births/Enrollment Comparison

Kindergarten Enrollment 2020-21 through 2029-30 compared to Birth Year 2015-2024



Note: 2025-26 through 2029-30 K enrollment = projections

VII. Conclusions:

- The 2024 NESDEC projections suggest that K-12 student enrollment in the Simsbury Public Schools will increase by an average of approximately 27 students per year for the next five years. The present enrollment of 4061 students is projected to increase to 4171 students in the year 2029-30.
- Enrollment projections are very useful when planning for areas such as staffing and its associated budget implications; however, projections are merely a forecast, not a certainty or guarantee. Although the historical data are accurate, many of the variables influencing the movement of families to and from Simsbury are not predictable and do have the potential of impacting future enrollment numbers. In addition, it is important to note that projections are most reliable for the immediate future, i.e., into the following school year. Projections become increasingly less reliable the further they extend into the future, specifically after a 5-year period.
- These projections will be important to monitor, especially the size of incoming K classes, over the next few years. Adjusted projections completed last year by the Assistant Superintendent for Administration took into consideration new legislation and trends.
- NESDEC's projections for this year take into account the lower trend of births to K ratio. The Assistant Superintendent for Administration conducted a conference call with the NESDEC demographer, and the mutual decision was to use two years of trend data for that ratio instead of the typical five years.

MTC:cdf

MEMO TO: Board of Education Members
FROM: Matt Curtis, Superintendent of Schools
DATE: December 10, 2024
RE: HVAC Inspection Reports

Under Connecticut law, each Board of Education must complete a uniform heating, ventilation and air conditioning (“HVAC”) system inspection and evaluation for each school building under its jurisdiction. The original legislative requirement indicated that these inspections needed to be completed by January 1, 2025 and then every five years after that. However, the timeline was extended such that each school must have an inspection completed prior to January 1, 2030 (and every 5 years after that). In Simsbury, we began to meet the requirement this past summer with inspections being conducted at Tootin’ Hills and Tariffville Schools, and those reports are being made available on our website. In general, the results were very positive, and all the Priority 1 recommendations have already been addressed.

Additionally, Public Act 23-167 was amended to require that school districts conduct an Indoor Air Quality assessment annually for each school rather than the previous 5-year cycle. Districts are therefore being required to participate in a program called “Tools for Schools,” which consists of a series of self-assessment checklists that represent best practice in promoting healthy indoor air quality. Our principals and head custodians engaged in this process over the summer, and results have been shared and discussed by the School Safety teams at each of the schools.

The legislation requires that the inspection reports be reviewed by Boards of Education prior to submitting the assessment results to the Department of Administrative Services. Results must also be posted to the district website.

Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Casey will review the processes that were conducted and the results this evening and will be happy to answer questions you may have.

MC:cdf