

Appendix F

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Ten-year projections are prepared as follows:

1. List live births by year for the past fifteen years.
2. List enrollments by grade levels for the past ten years.
3. Compare kindergarten enrollments for the past five years to the live births for five previous years. For each year divide the kindergarten enrollment by the live births five years earlier. Find the average of the results. This will be your survival ratio for kindergarten enrollments.
4. Develop grade to grade survival ratios for each year. Divide grades one enrollment for each year by the kindergarten enrollment for the previous year. The average of the results will be your grade one survival ratio.
5. Repeat step four for each succeeding grade. (dividing grade two enrollments by grade one enrollments for the previous year, etc.)
6. Find the average number of live births for the past ten years. Calculate the anticipated enrollment for each grade for each year ahead. Multiply the number of live births for each of the past five years by the kindergarten survival ratio to get anticipated kindergarten enrollments for the next five years. Multiply the average number of births by the kindergarten survival ratio to get anticipated kindergarten enrollments for years six to ten ahead. Multiply the kindergarten enrollment by the grade one survival ratio to get the anticipated first grade enrollment for next year. Multiply the anticipated kindergarten enrollment for next year by the grade one survival ratio to get the anticipated grade one enrollment for the following year and so forth through ten years ahead. Repeat the process for succeeding grades.

This method is familiar to most school administrators and has proved as reliable as any for predicting school space needs if it can be reasonably assumed that 1) student in-migration and out-migration will continue as in the past; 2) school board policies on promotion and retention will remain unchanged; 3) the percentage of school dropouts will remain constant; 4) and the number of pupils entering your schools from non public schools and/or leaving your school for non-public schools will remain constant.

