

LPS ENROLLMENT REPORT UPDATE AND PROJECTIONS

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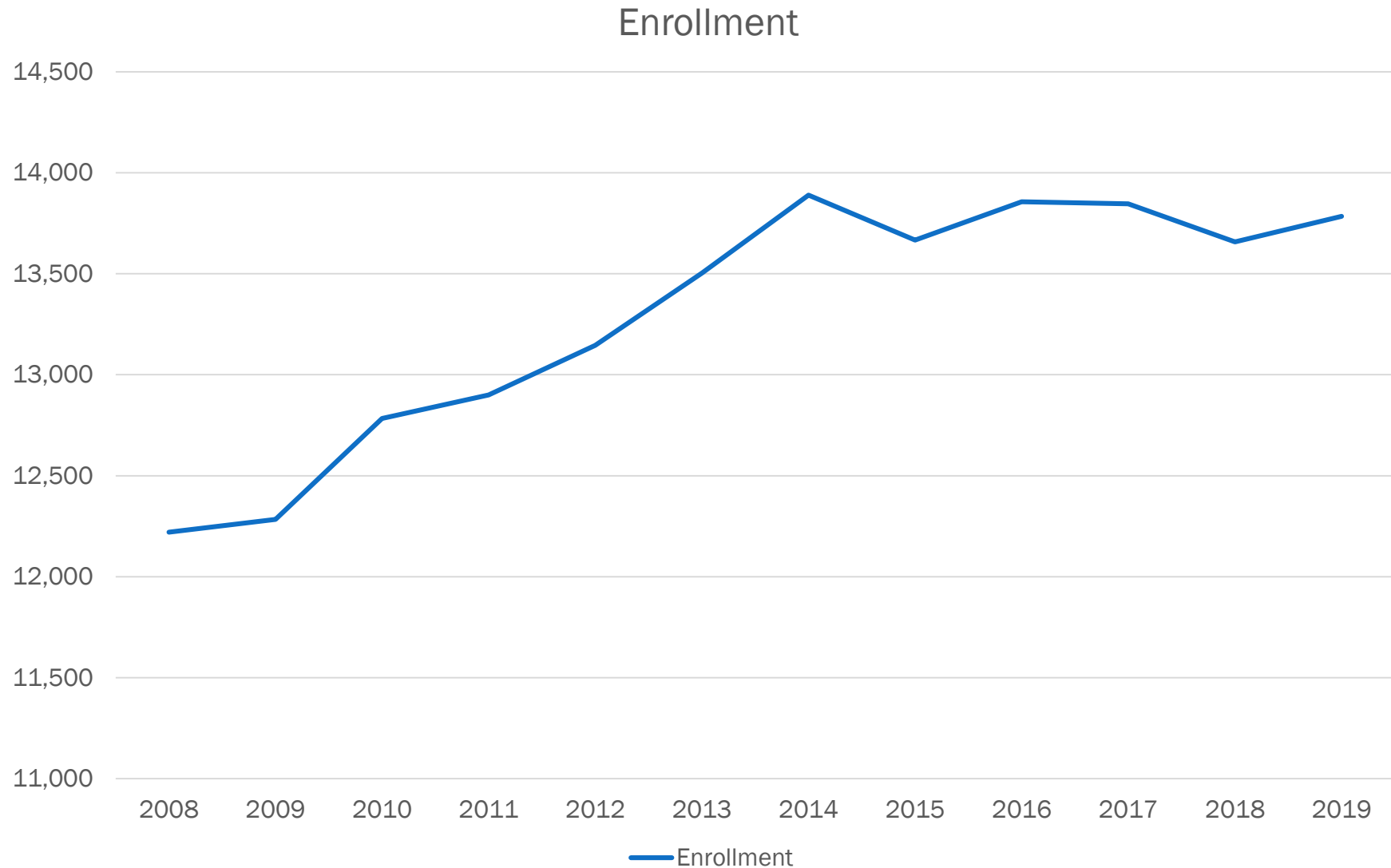
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Lawrence Public Schools

October 9, 2019

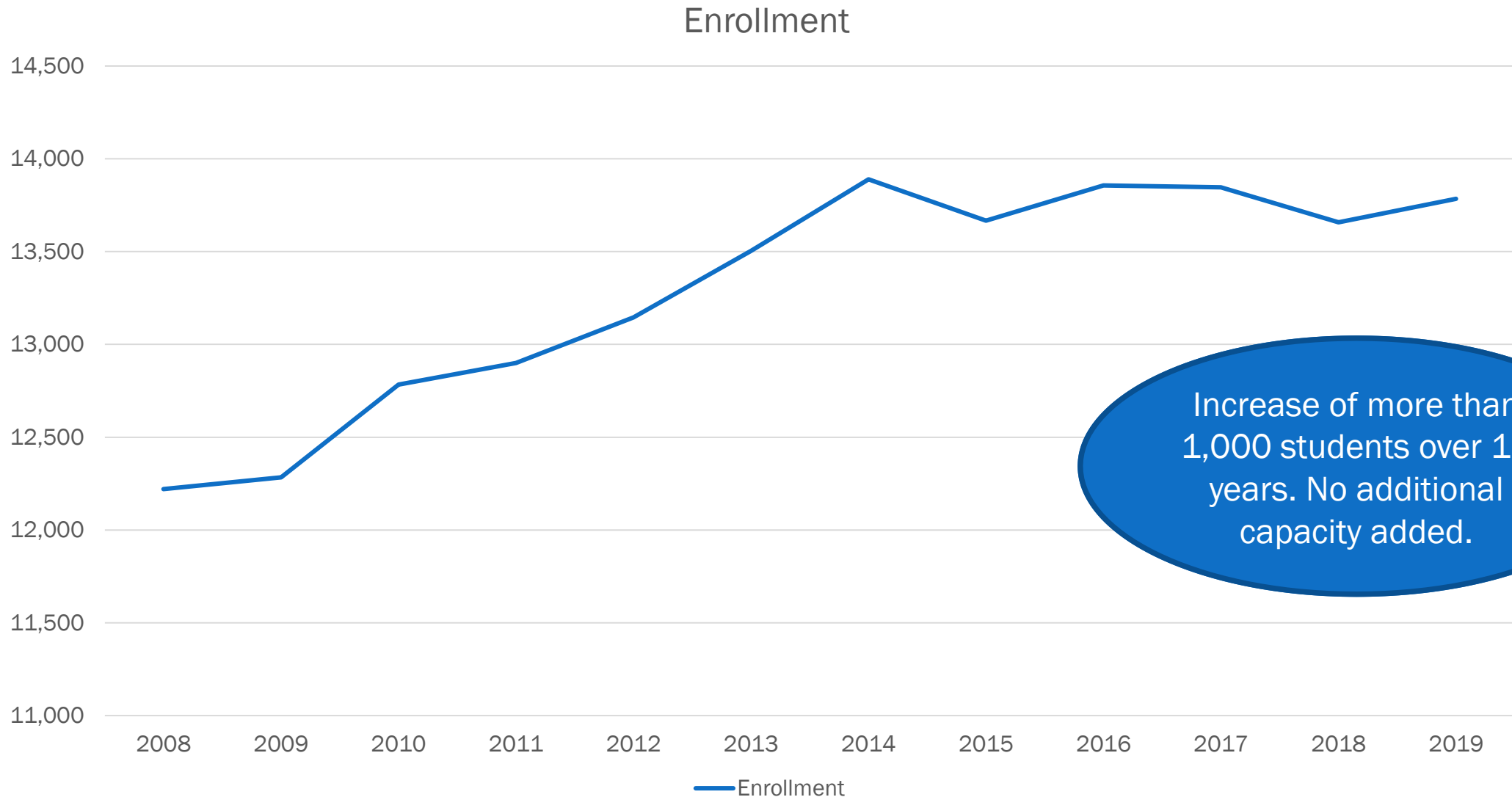


Enrollment similar to last year – no major surprises



Year	Enrollment
2008	12,221
2009	12,284
2010	12,784
2011	12,900
2012	13,145
2013	13,504
2014	13,889
2015	13,667
2016	13,857
2017	13,846
2018	13,658
2019	13,785

No major changes to building capacity – YET



Recent and Future Capacity Solutions

Long Term (Projected 2023-2025)

- Requested 500 new seats at Oliver Building
- Requested 500 new seats at Leahy Building

Short Term

- Continue to higher class size caps
- Added classrooms in existing schools, where possible
- Rezone students to schools that have more capacity



2019-20 Enrollment

- Slight increase from last year of 120 students across many grades, schools
 - *Increases: Grades 6, 7, 8, 10 and 12*
- Offsetting the increases were decreases in grades
 - *Decreases: K, 2, 3, 5, 11*
- Keeping cap sizes on classrooms high (continuing from 2016-17); fortunately, many are not reaching the caps – providing some relief
 - *K = 22-25*
 - *G1 = 25-29*
 - *G2-5 = 27-29*
 - *G6-8 = 29-30*
- No consistent trends in growth/contraction – too early to adjust caps
 - *i.e. K is up in some areas (Parthum, Lawlor, Breen) but down in others (Hennessey, LFPA)*

Who has reached their maximum class size?

- Pre-kindergarten – all schools (consistent with previous years)
- Lawlor – Kindergarten
- Parthum – Kindergarten
- Breen – Kindergarten
- SLEE – Grade 1
- Leahy – Grade 5

Next enrollment wave: January when additional seats will fill.



Supports for larger classes

- When grades reach their cap in a school, we:
 - *Temporarily close the grade, assign new students to next closest school*
 - *We deploy additional para-professionals to schools, as needed*
 - *We rezone for the next year, as needed*

SAMPLE CASE

Kindergarten at Breen School (a PK & K school)

Six classes all at maximum capacity (22)

We can either:

1. Close the grade and assign new students to Frost or Wetherbee (next closest), or
2. Provide a para to support a larger class size

Challenge:

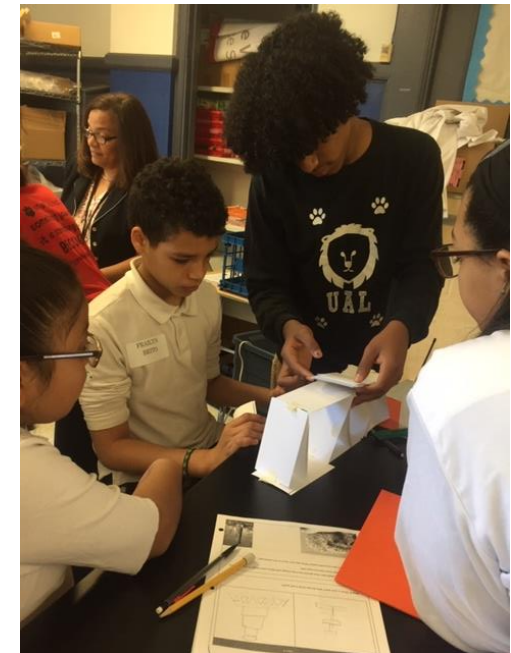
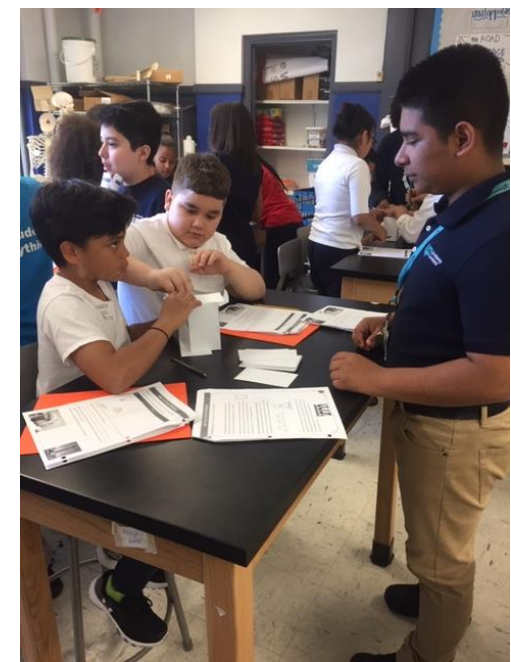
If we send students to either Frost or Wetherbee, once enrolled, families will likely want to keep their students in those schools, causing enrollment capacity issues in those locations

Solution:

We provide a paraprofessional to help with additional students, keeping the cohort together, as they are promoted to SLEE next.

Right-sizing Arlington Grade 6

- Rezoned 17 grade 6 students for UP Leonard, instead of Arlington
 - *Arlington grade 6 now at 129 students (down from 146)*
 - *UPL grade 6 is now 113 (cap is 120)*
- Over three years, both schools will “right-sized”
- Student update
 - *UPL reports the students are doing GREAT!*
 - Strong start with well attended welcome events
 - *Attendance is on par with neighborhood students*
 - *Rezoned students receive a bus to and from school*
 - Students are arriving on time
 - Students have two options for returning home, including a late bus so they can participate in afterschool programming





Enrollment Projections for 2020-2021



Enrollment Projections: A combination of what we know + what we don't

■ What we know:

- *MSBA data on birth trends (longer range planning)*
- *Current and past enrollment/trends*
- *Any planned expansions of independent or charter schools/grades*

■ Plus, what we don't know:

- *Residential development: number of new families/students*
- *Immigration/migration*

What we know

	PK	K	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	G13	
2018-19 TOTAL	450	991	1063	1065	1108	1103	1117	1063	1056	1171	991	815	875	745	45	13658
2019-20 TOTAL	451	916	1054	1043	1088	1136	1079	1145	1121	1094	969	940	802	870	70	13778

- Current cohort size: reality that most will move to next grade, except:
 - LPS loses some students to charter and independent schools at 5th grade, plus vocational options at high school
 - Charter expansions can also reduce enrollment
 - i.e., Community Day–Gateway and Kingman–Webster each opened in 2012 with 120 students, kindergarten through first grade, but have expanded each year, with full enrollment capacity through grade 8 at 400 students each.

What we don't know

Impact of continued residential expansion on enrollment, such as:

- Loft 5.0 (550-600 Broadway Street). Phase II just opened.
- Methuen Street Apartments
- Bruce Street: newly built, blue building between 196-200 Bruce Street

World events/natural disasters, such as:

- Hurricane Maria in 2017 brought 127 students to us;
the district continues to educate 58 students impacted by this disaster



Projections for 2020-2021

Kindergarten will remain strong in neighborhoods where it is strong now, based on PK trend data

Will look to shift 1-2 classrooms from low impact to high impact areas

Grades 1, 4 and 6 will experience small decreases, based on current grade K, 3 and 5 data

Move bubble classrooms to distribute resources where needed

Grade 8 will experience continued growth, based on grade 7 data

Considering strategies to increase capacity in high impact areas (i.e. Arlington)

Short Term Plan

- Hold steady with current, creative solutions

Long Term Plan

- Maximize opportunities for added capacity generated by the Oliver and Leahy building projects





THANK YOU
Questions?

