

Upper Saddle River Schools

Enrollment Study

ROSS HABER AND ASSOCIATES

December, 2016

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The Upper Saddle River Board of Education has engaged Ross Haber and Associates to provide an enrollment projection study. The need for this study was created by the plans for new residential housing developments in Upper Saddle River. These developments may potentially result in approximately 252 non-age restricted housing units. These units will comprise 44 single family homes and 208 for sale town homes of which 186 will be market rate and 22 will be set aside to meet the Borough's affordable home obligation. This study will provide a five-year enrollment projection based upon six years of enrollment history as provided by the District.

This study will provide enrollment projection tables both with and without the new housing projection. The methodology will be the cohort survival method. This method is the same that is accepted by the State of New Jersey as part of the requirement for submission of a Long Range Facility Plan. The cohort survival method follows groups of students as they move from one grade to the next. As they move a growth/decline ratio is developed (for example if there are 100 students in grade one and this grows to 110 in grade 2 then the growth ratio is .10). This is done for a period of six years to get a five-year average. The average is then applied to the current grade level to create the five-year projection. Once that is completed projected new housing is incorporated into the projection for the purpose of projecting the impact of new housing on the schools. Kindergarten enrollment is projected either by birth to kindergarten ratios (children born in 2010 became first graders in 2015). An alternate method for projecting kindergarten is the use of a moving average. We have found that the latter method provides greater accuracy for projections than does birth to kindergarten. For towns like Upper Saddle River many new residents arrive with school age or pre-school aged children already born thus negating the use of birth to kindergarten. For this study we are using the moving average to project kindergarten.

Executive Summary

1. The total enrollment in the Upper Saddle River Schools declined from 1,341 in 2011-12 to 1,189 in 2016-17. This is a decline of 152 students or approximately 11.3%.
2. The total enrollment is projected to increase slightly from the current 1,189 to 1,197 by the 2021-22 school year. This is a marginal increase of 8 students but does not count the additional students estimated from the new housing units.

3. The K-2 enrollment decreased from 395 students in 2011-12 to 316 students in 2016-17.. This is a decrease of 79 students or approximately 20%.¹
4. The K-2 enrollment is projected to increase from the current 316 students to 415 in 2021-22. This is an increase of 99 students or approximately 23.9%.
5. The 3-5 enrollment decreased from 455 students in 2011-12 to 377 in 2016-17. This is a decrease of 78 students or approximately 17.15%..
6. The 3-5 enrollment is projected to remain stable during the five year projection period. The current enrollment is 377, the projected enrollment is 375.
7. The 6-8 enrollment declined from 474 students in 2011-12 to 466 in 2016-17. This is a marginal decline of 8 students.
8. The 6-8 enrollment is projected to decline from the current 466 students to 381 in 2021-22. This is a decline of 85 students or approximately 18.25%.

While the enrollment in the Upper Saddle River Schools had declined during the past six years it is clear that the lower grades are trending upward. This projection, as shown in 1-8 above, is based solely on historical enrollment. The next section will discuss the impact of the projected new housing units on the enrollment in the Upper Saddle River Schools.

Housing

In order to project the impact of new housing units on the schools it is necessary to develop a student yield factor. This student yield factor provides the information regarding the number of school aged children that can be expected from each new unit. Because of the relative stability of the population of Upper Saddle River the ratio of homes to students provides a yield factor for single family residents which is well below the average for communities that have the same DFG (District Factor Groups). The DFG is a statistic which allows for comparative analysis of school districts with similar socio-economic populations. For similar communities the average yield from a new single family home is .78 (meaning that for every 100 homes we can project 78 students. It is important to note that in projecting students there has to be an accounting for student leaving the system and for homes with children who are not of school age. There are 44 new single family homes projected for Upper Saddle River. Based upon an average student yield of .78 approximately 35 new school aged children can be projected from these homes.

There are also 208 Town Home Units (non-age restricted) being built in the Borough.

¹ The grade level enrollment figures do not include self-contained special education or pre-K numbers. Those can be seen in table 2 of this study.

Of these, 186 units will be market rate and 22 affordable. The number of students yielded is based upon yield factors from school districts with similar District Factor Groups.²

Table 1 Student Distribution by Unit Type

Student Distribution Town Homes				
	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	
	0.1638	0.3402	0.6805	
Market Rate	3	10	173	
Students	1	4	118	123
	0.2338	0.4886	0.9722	
Affordable	1	3	18	
Students	1	2	18	21
		Sub-Total		144
		Single Family		35
		Grand Total		179

The total number of school aged children projected to come from these new developments is 179 of which 35 will come from the single family homes; 144 from the market rate town homes; and, 10 from the affordable town home units.

The impact on the Upper Saddle River Schools will be approximately 148 students to the K-8 schools (38 students will be of high school age and not impact the Upper Saddle River Schools). This estimate is based upon an 80/20 split between K-8 and 9-12. We have found that fewer families tend to relocate when their children are of high school age.

For purposes of this study we are assuming that the proposed new housing units will be completed within the next five years. The projection table which incorporates the impact of new housing has the impact back loaded to the latter years of the projection.

Table 2 on page 4 is the cohort table without new housing. Table 3 on page 6 is the projection with the new housing incorporated.

² The District Factor Group (DFG) is a statistical method used by the State of New Jersey to compare school districts with similar socio-economic groupings.

Table 2: Enrollment History and Projection without Projected New Housing

Without New Housing																					
Year	Births	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	K-2	3-5	6-8	Total K-8	SCSE	PK	Total				
2011-12	20	126	129	140	146	153	156	157	174	143	395	455	474	1324	3	14	1341				
			0.99	1.08	1.09	1.04	1.01	1.01	1.02												
2012-13	20	107	125	139	152	152	154	158	158	177	371	458	493	1322	3	14	1339				
			1.03	1.03	1.09	1.00	1.01	1.05	1.00	0.98											
2013-14	18	112	110	129	152	152	154	161	158	155	351	458	474	1283	4	21	1308				
			0.97	1.01	1.00	0.96	1.01	1.05	0.98	1.00											
2014-15	12	109	109	111	129	146	153	162	158	158	329	428	478	1235	1	12	1248				
			1.05	1.08	1.10	0.98	1.00	1.01	1.01	0.97											
2015-16	24	106	114	118	122	127	146	155	164	153	338	395	472	1205	2	17	1224				
			0.93	1.09	1.08	1.02	0.99	0.97	1.01	1.02											
2016-17	13	93	99	124	127	124	126	142	156	168	316	377	466	1159	8	22	1189				
Av			0.99	1.06	1.07	1.00	1.00	1.02	1.00	1.00											
Year	Births	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	K-2	3-5	6-8	Total K-8	SCSE	PK	Total				
2017-18	15	112	93	105	133	127	124	128	142	156	309	384	426	1120	2	16	1137				
2018-19	15	128	111	98	112	133	128	127	129	142	337	373	397	1107	2	20	1129				
2019-20	16	132	127	118	105	112	133	130	127	128	377	350	385	1113	2	22	1136				
2020-21	17	136	131	134	126	105	113	136	130	127	402	344	393	1138	2	22	1162				
2021-22	15	141	135	139	144	126	105	115	136	130	415	375	381	1172	2	24	1197				

Chart 1: Enrollment History and Projection without Projected Housing

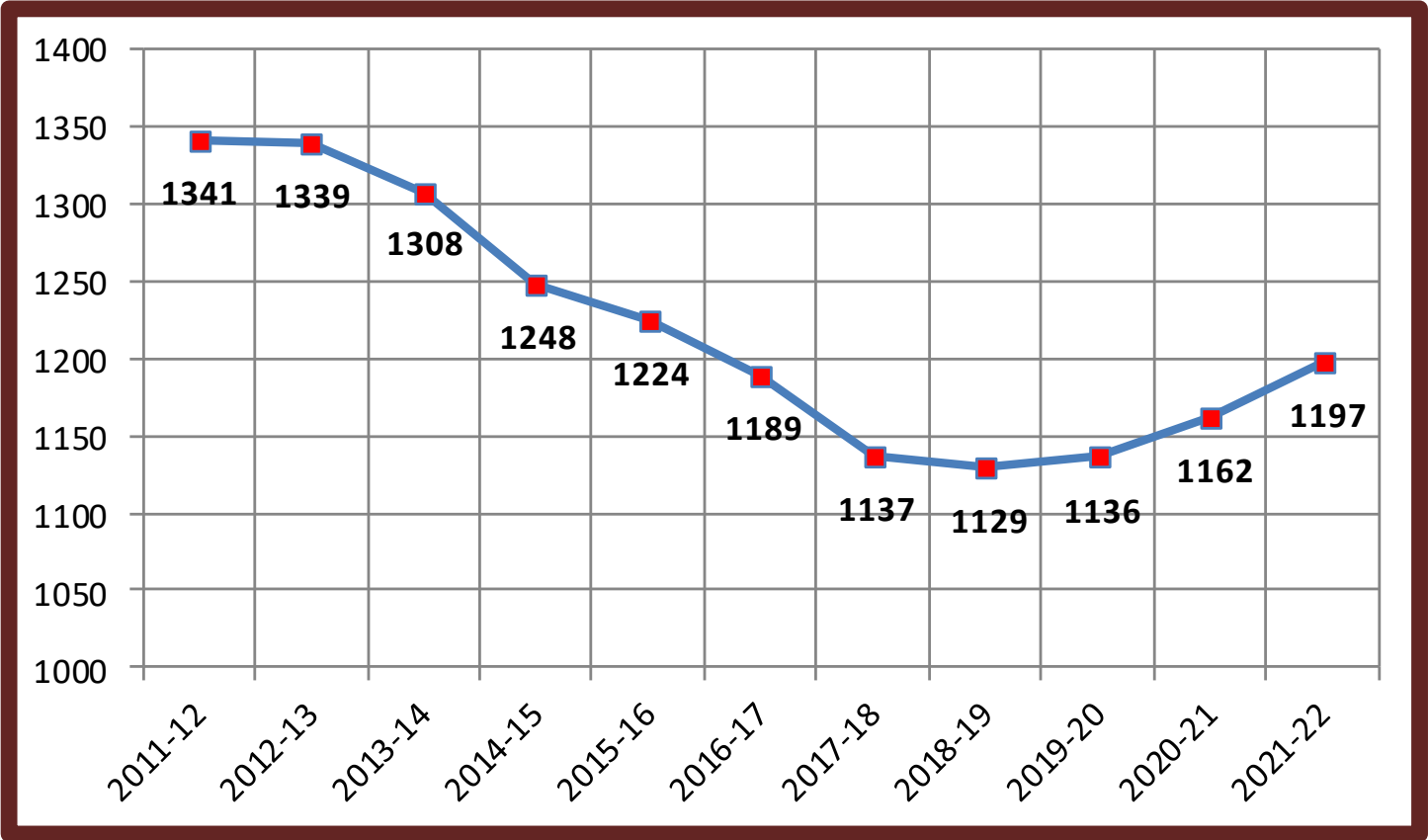
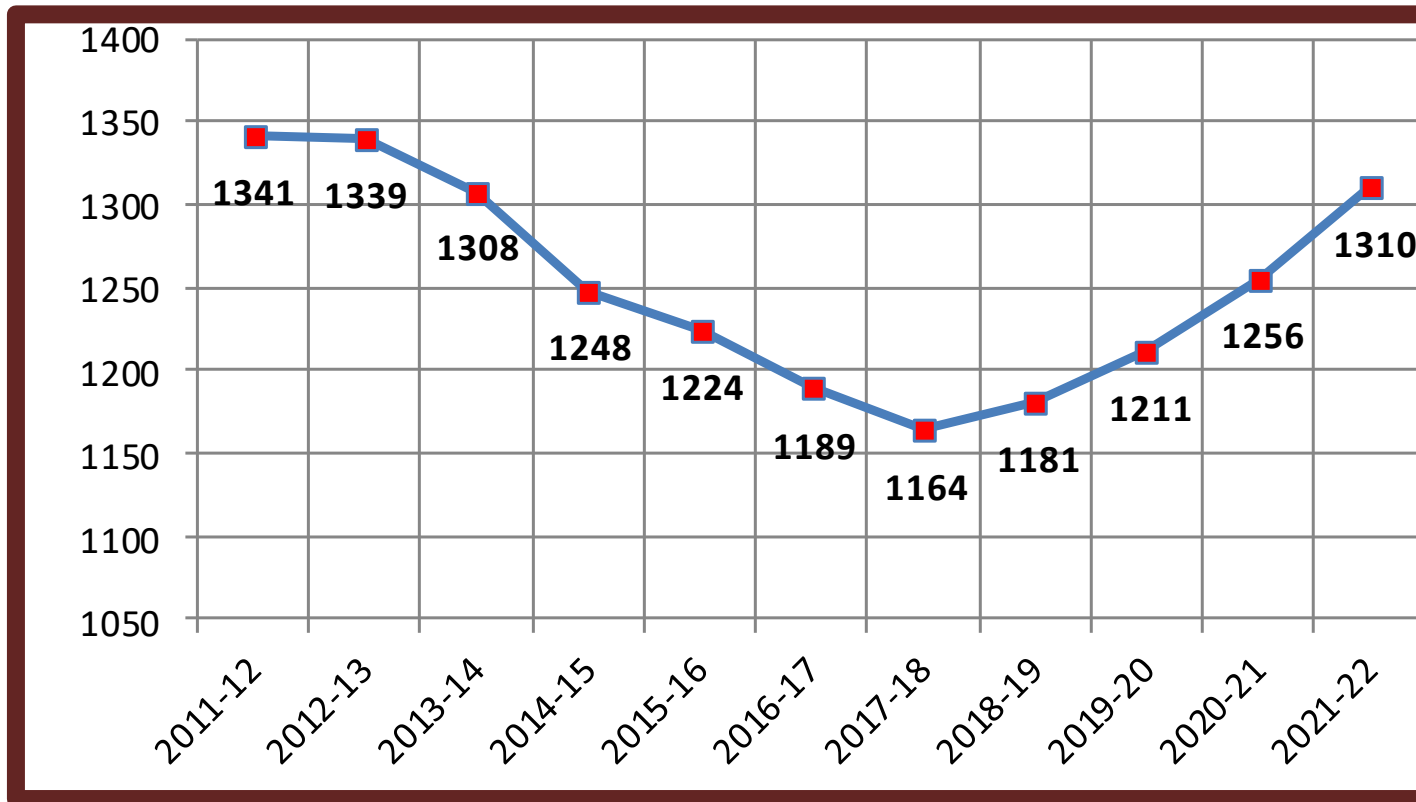


Table 3: Enrollment History and Projection with Potential New Housing Units

With New Housing																				
Year	Births	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	K-2	3-5	6-8	Total	SCSE	PK	Total			
														K-8						
2011-12	20	126	129	140	146	153	156	157	174	143	395	455	474	1324	3	14	1341			
		0.99	1.08	1.09	1.04	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.02											
2012-13	20	107	125	139	152	152	154	158	158	177	371	458	493	1322	3	14	1339			
		1.03	1.03	1.09	1.00	1.01	1.05	1.00	0.98											
2013-14	18	112	110	129	152	152	154	161	158	155	351	458	474	1283	4	21	1308			
		0.97	1.01	1.00	0.96	1.01	1.05	0.98	1.00											
2014-15	12	109	109	111	129	146	153	162	158	158	329	428	478	1235	1	12	1248			
		1.05	1.08	1.10	0.98	1.00	1.01	1.01	0.97											
2015-16	24	106	114	118	122	127	146	155	164	153	338	395	472	1205	2	17	1224			
		0.93	1.09	1.08	1.02	0.99	0.97	1.01	1.02											
2016-17	13	93	99	124	127	124	126	142	156	168	316	377	466	1159	8	22	1189			
Av		0.99	1.06	1.07	1.00	1.00	1.02	1.00	1.00											
Year	Births	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	K-2	3-5	6-8	Total	SCSE	PK	Total			
														K-8	K-8					
2017-18	15	115	96	108	136	130	127	131	145	159	318	393	435	1147	2	16	1164			
2018-19	15	131	117	104	118	139	134	133	135	148	353	391	415	1159	2	20	1181			
2019-20	16	136	134	127	114	121	142	139	136	137	397	378	413	1188	2	22	1211			
2020-21	17	138	139	144	139	117	125	148	142	139	421	382	429	1232	2	22	1256			
2021-22	15	147	140	150	158	142	121	130	151	145	437	421	427	1284	2	24	1310			

This table indicates that the projected new housing will have the long term effect of reversing the enrollment decline.

Chart 2: Enrollment History and Projection with Potential New Housing Units



Conclusion

The Upper Saddle River School District has had a declining enrollment. The past six years has shown an average decline of approximately 2.3% per year. The trend appears to be leveling off at the lower grades. If the proposed new construction is approved and completed it is projected that over time it could add an estimated 144 students K-8. There are an additional 25 units to be constructed. The types of units and number of bedrooms is not known. If these are non-age restricted units they might possibly add another 10 to 15 students to the schools.

This District housed a total 1,341 students in 2011-12. By the 2016-17 school year this total was down to 1,159. The projection for 2021-22, assuming all of the currently approved new housing is completed is projected to be 1,310 which is just below the number of students who attended the Upper Saddle River Schools in 2011-12.