



Underwood and Ward Presentation

February 5 and 12, 2020

2019-20

Why are we here?

NPS Facilities Goal: Planning for the Future

- Ensure K-5 school capacity meets current educational needs and maintains favorable class sizes
- Design and maintain up-to-date teaching and learning facilities
 - General education, small group instructions, Special Education, Art, Music, Gymnasium, Media Center and Cafeteria

Context

- Due to educational and financial reasons, new K-5 schools are being built larger
- Ward (1928) and Underwood (1924) are the oldest and smallest two elementary schools in Newton and require extensive work
- Peer districts such as Wellesley are going through a similar process regarding their aging and small elementary schools

Ward Elementary

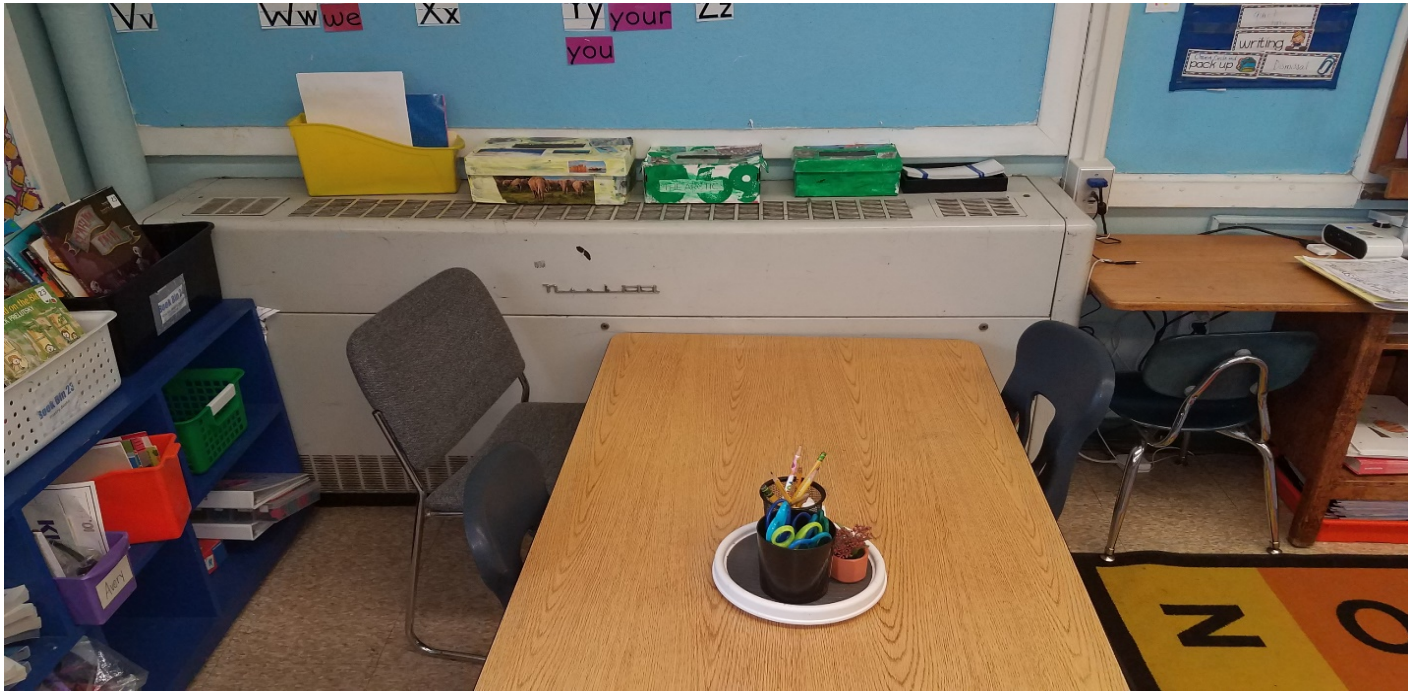


Figure 1: No breakout space.

Figure 1: The school has no breakout or small group instruction areas, so space is taken from already undersized classrooms to create these spaces.

Ward Elementary



Figure 2: Connection to additions

Figure 2: Connection to the 1949 and 1956 additions. This picture shows that the school has multiple elevations throughout which poses a significant challenge in making the school compliant.



Figure 3: Window wells

Figure 3: Window wells provide very limited natural light to the basement educational spaces.

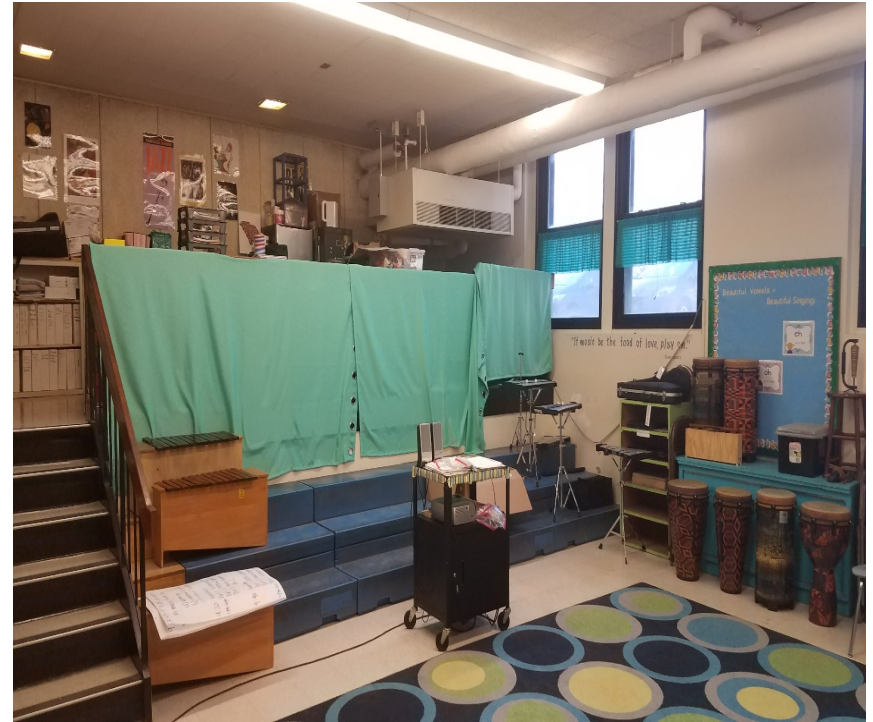
Underwood Elementary



Figure 1: Inside main entrance

Figures 1: The main entrance of this 1924 building is inaccessible. Staircase measures 10 feet.

Underwood Elementary



Figures 2 & 3: Ground level music room

Figures 2 & 3: This is the ground level music room has insufficient space, lacks functionality and storage. The Art room at Underwood has similar issues.

Underwood Elementary



Figure 4: Elevator

Figure 4: Inadequate elevator.



Figure 5: Library

Figure 5: Multi-level library has accessibility issues, not meeting today's library standards.

Changing Elementary School Context

- Larger schools offer greater options for student placement
- Social and emotional needs of students require full-time mental health and other support services
- Full-time specialists (P.E., Art, Music) are highly desirable for school stability and community as well as scheduling
- Larger student populations provide greater options for special education and ELL programming

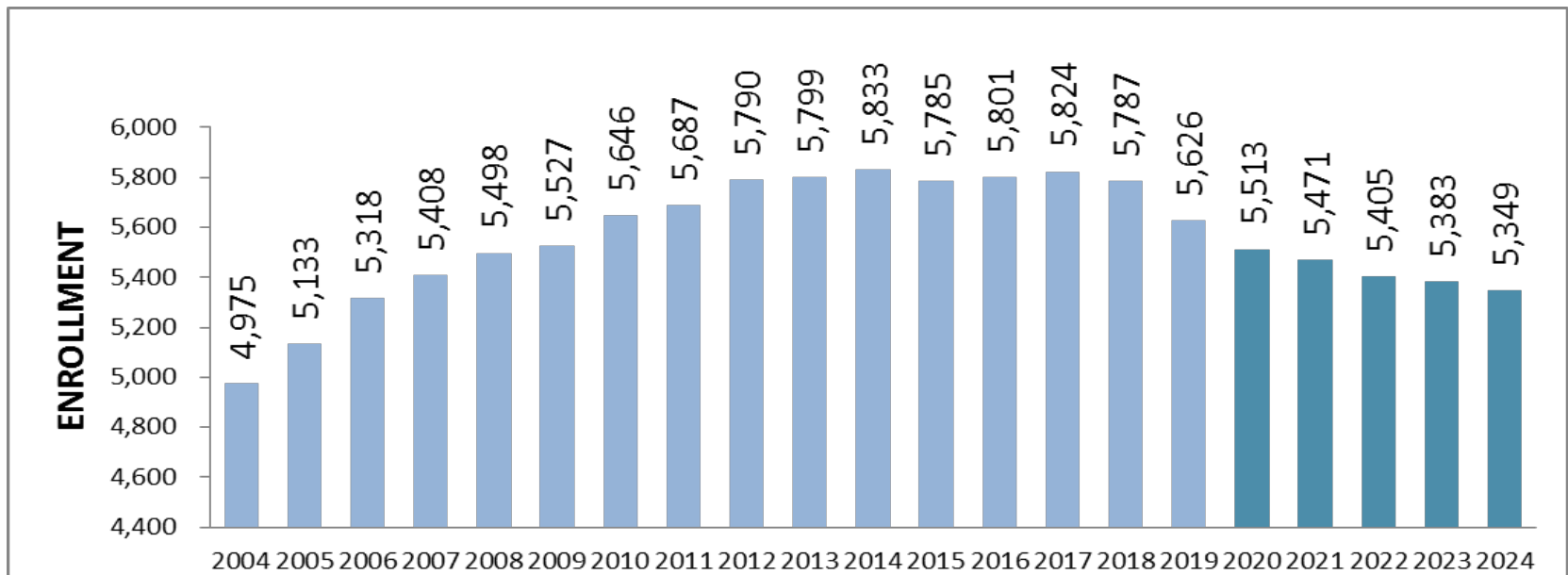
New K-5 Schools in Newton

- Angier 2015 – 24 classrooms *
- Zervas 2017 – 24 classrooms
- Cabot 2019 – 24 classrooms *

*MSBA funding - both Angier and Cabot were partially funded by the State

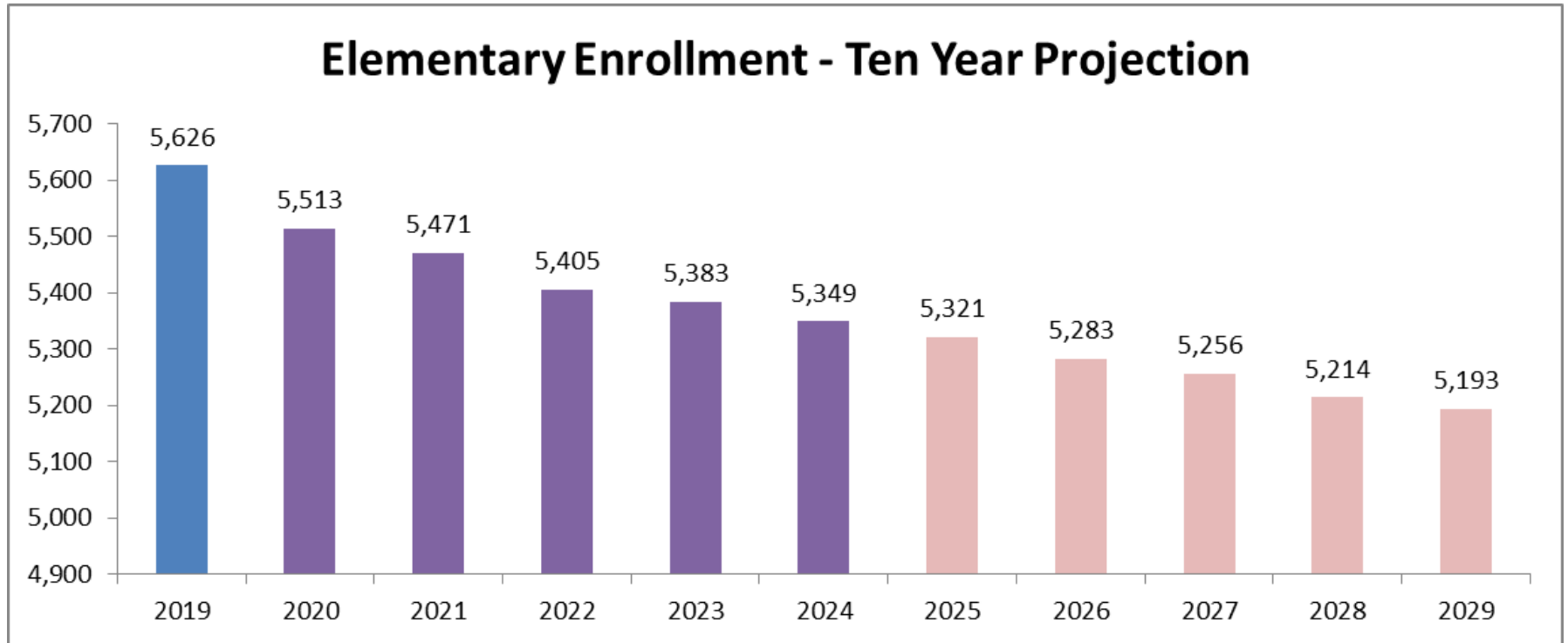
5-Year Projections: Elementary

- **Elementary: -277 students (-5%)**
 - Assumes decreasing K classes in each of the next five years, except level for next year



Current 10-Year Projections: Elementary

Elementary: -433 students (-7.7%)



*Elementary projections that are pink (2025-2029) include estimates for students not yet born (estimates are based on current birth rate trends and kindergarten enrollment trends).

Current Elementary Enrollment and Capacity

- In 2019-20: 6,358 student capacity (includes modulars)
- In 2019-20: 88% capacity

- In ten years: 6,578 student
- In ten years: 79% capacity

Why is enrollment declining at Ward and Underwood?

- Decline in birthrate
- Non-public school enrollment has been consistent in both schools for many years
- Little to no development in either school zone

Resident Births* to Kindergarten Ratios

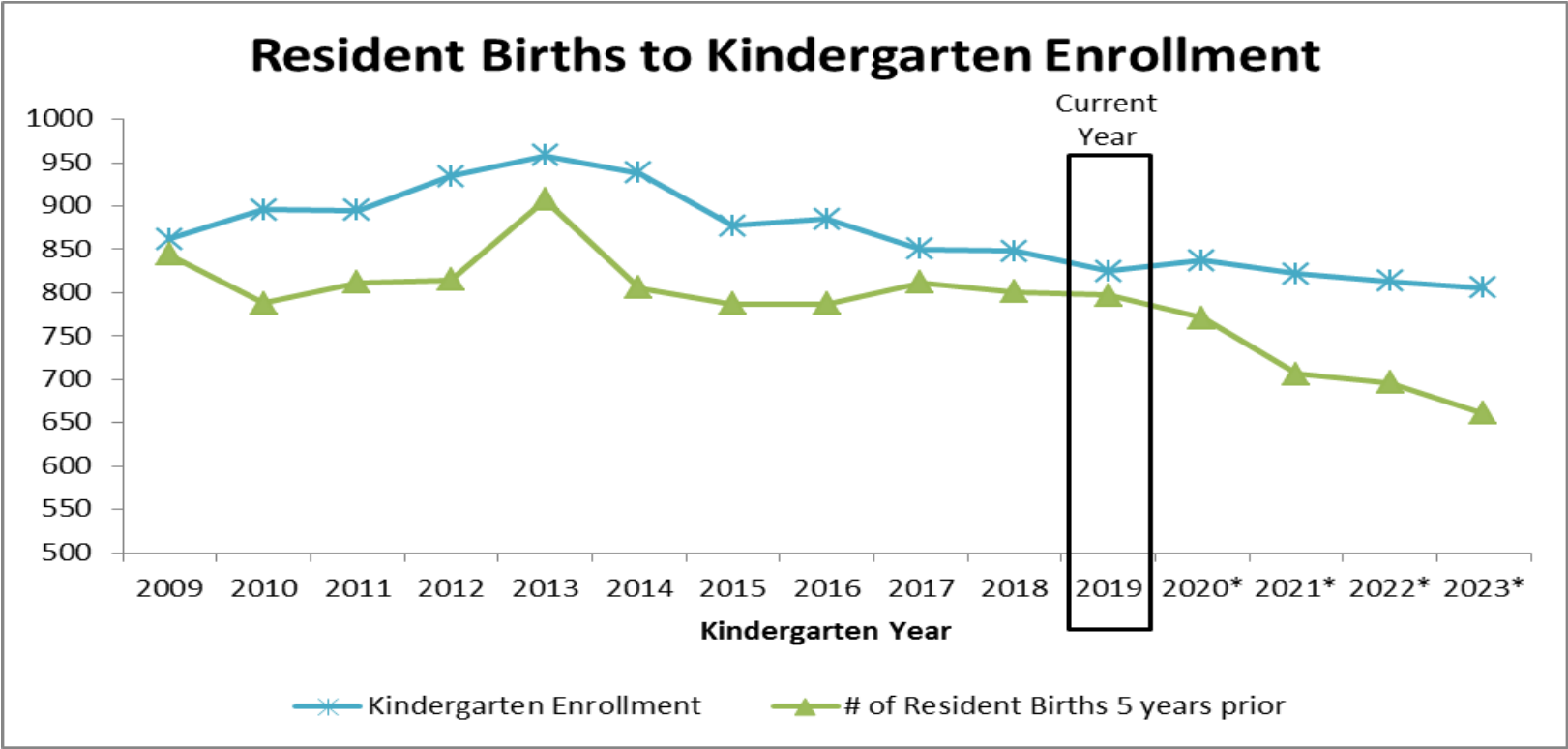
	Births to Kindergarten Ratios							
Birth Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
# of Births	844	788	812	815	907	806	787	787
K Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Kindergarten	862	896	895	934	958	938	877	885
Ratio	1.02	1.14	1.10	1.15	1.06	1.16	1.11	1.12

	Births to Kindergarten Ratios							
Birth Year	2012	2013	2014	2015**	2016**	2017**	2018**	
# of Births	812	801	797	771	706	696	661	
K Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Kindergarten	850	848	825	837	822	813	806	
Ratio	1.05	1.06	1.04	1.09	1.16	1.17	1.22	

*Source is the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, Vital Statistics (obtained through NESDEC).

**Kindergarten class is projected.

Resident Births** to Kindergarten Ratios



**Source is the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, Vital Statistics (obtained through NESDEC).

*Kindergarten class is projected.

Non-Public School Enrollment

(as percentage of total school age population)

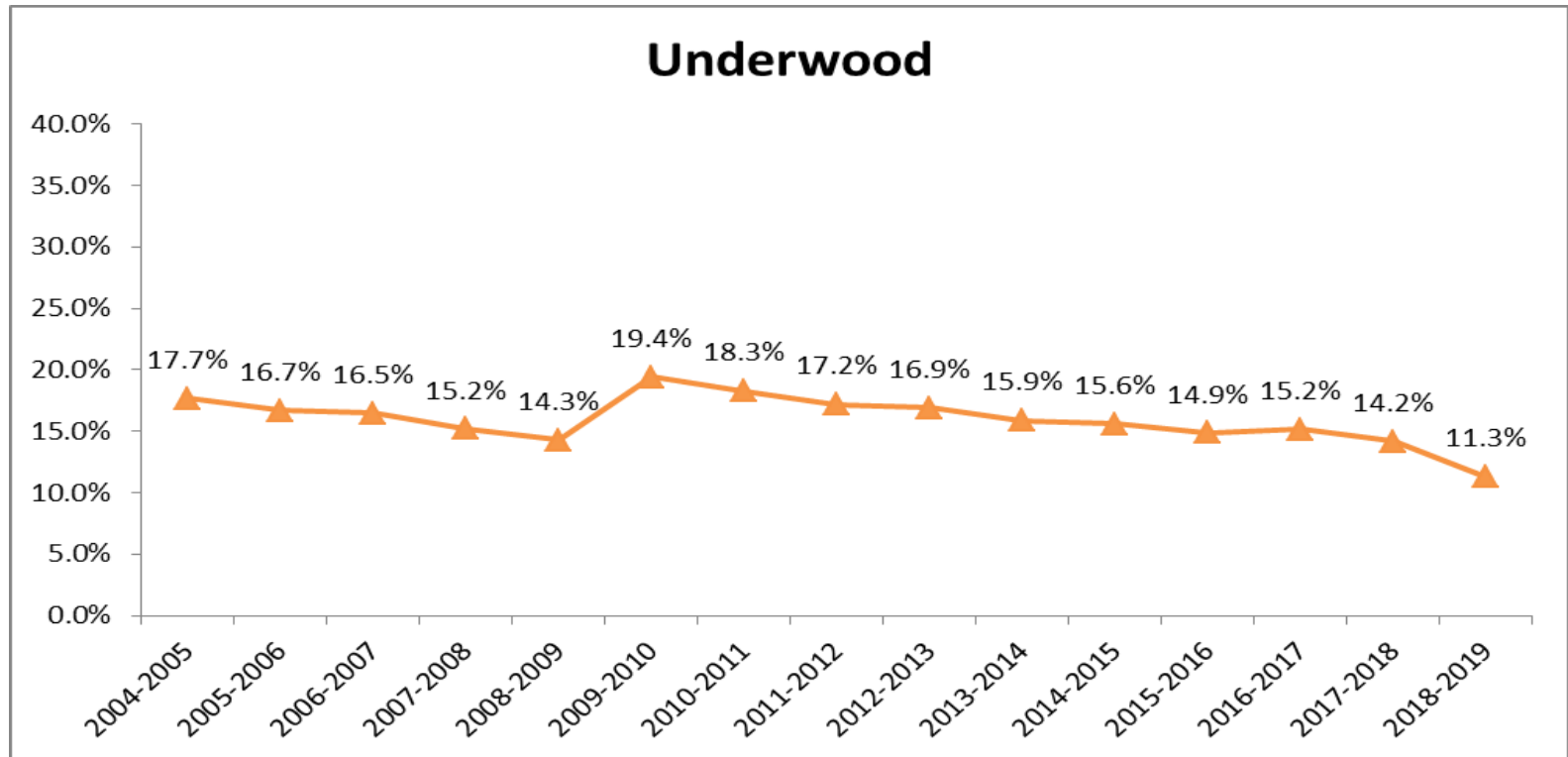
Underwood Elementary School

Year	Percentage of Population
2004-2005	17.7%
2005-2006	16.7%
2006-2007	16.5%
2007-2008	15.2%
2008-2009	14.3%
2009-2010	19.4%
2010-2011	18.3%
2011-2012	17.2%

Year	Percentage of Population
2012-2013	16.9%
2013-2014	15.9%
2014-2015	15.6%
2015-2016	14.9%
2016-2017	15.2%
2017-2018	14.2%
2018-2019	11.3%

Non-Public School Enrollment

(as percentage of total school age population)



Ten Years of Total School Enrollments-Five Projected Underwood Elementary School

Year	Enrollment		Change from Previous Year	% Change from Previous Year
	K	Total		
2010	49	282		
2011	49	289	7	2.5%
2012	47	310	21	7.3%
2013	48	327	17	5.5%
2014	62	341	14	4.3%
2015	41	326	-15	-4.4%
2016	47	313	-13	-4.0%
2017	35	284	-29	-9.3%
2018	43	290	6	2.1%
2019	42	269	-21	-7.2%
2020	40	248	-21	-7.8%
2021	39	247	-1	-0.4%
2022	37	241	-6	-2.4%
2023	38	242	1	0.4%
2024	38	240	-2	-0.8%

Peak enrollment year: 2014, 341 students

Actual and Projected Classroom Distributions Underwood Elementary School

Grade	Actual		Projections using 5-year Average Ratios*						
	2019 FY20	Avg. Class Size	2020 FY21	Avg. Class Size	Max Size	2021 FY22	2022 FY23	2023 FY24	2024 FY25
K	2	21.0	2	20.0	20.0	2	2	2	2
1	2	20.0	2	23.5	24.0	2	2	2	2
2	2	18.0	2	19.5	20.0	2	2	2	2
3	2	22.5	2	17.5	18.0	2	2	2	2
4	2	21.0	2	23.0	23.0	2	2	2	2
5	3	21.3	2	20.5	21.3	2	2	2	2
Total	13		12			12	12	12	12
Avg. Class Size	20.7		20.7			20.6	20.1	20.2	20.0

*For grades 1-12. K enrollment is projected using an adjusted 3-year average of previous K enrollments.

Non-Public School Enrollment

(as percentage of total school age population)

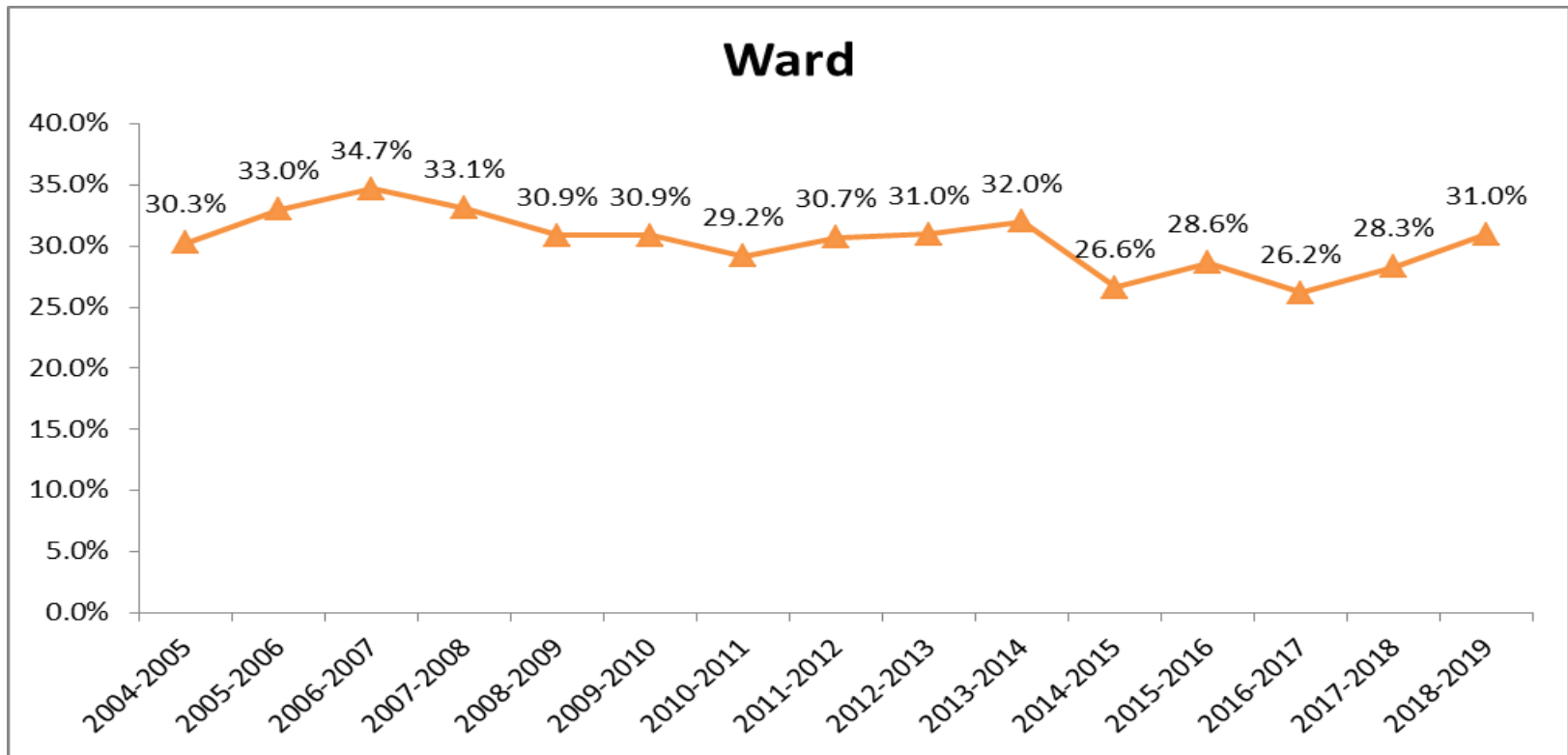
Ward Elementary School

Year	Percentage of Population
2004-2005	30.3%
2005-2006	33.0%
2006-2007	34.7%
2007-2008	33.1%
2008-2009	30.9%
2009-2010	30.9%
2010-2011	29.2%
2011-2012	30.7%

Year	Percentage of Population
2012-2013	31.0%
2013-2014	32.0%
2014-2015	26.6%
2015-2016	28.6%
2016-2017	26.2%
2017-2018	28.3%
2018-2019	31.0%

Non-Public School Enrollment

(as percentage of total school age population)



Ten Years of Total School Enrollments-Five Projected Ward Elementary School

Year	Enrollment		Change from Previous Year	% Change from Previous Year
	K	Total		
2010	42	269		
2011	46	278	9	3.3%
2012	47	301	23	8.3%
2013	43	289	-12	-4.0%
2014	46	304	15	5.2%
2015	43	304	0	0.0%
2016	49	313	9	3.0%
2017	35	309	-4	-1.3%
2018	41	296	-13	-4.2%
2019	34	255	-41	-13.9%
2020	35	239	-16	-6.3%
2021	35	228	-11	-4.6%
2022	33	218	-10	-4.4%
2023	35	221	3	1.4%
2024	33	216	-5	-2.3%

Peak enrollment year: 2016, 313 students

Actual and Projected Classroom Distributions

Ward Elementary School

Grade	Actual		Projections using 5-year Average Ratios						
	2019 FY20	Avg. Class Size	2020 FY21	Avg. Class Size	Max Size	2021 FY22	2022 FY23	2023 FY24	2024 FY25
K	2	17.0	2	17.5	18.0	2	2	2	2
1	2	20.0	2	17.5	18.0	2	2	2	2
2	2	17.5	2	20.5	21.0	2	2	2	2
3	3	15.0	2	18.0	18.0	2	2	2	2
4	2	23.5	2	22.5	23.0	2	2	2	2
5	3	18.0	2	23.5	24.0	2	2	2	2
Total	14		12			12	12	12	12
Avg. Class Size	18.2		19.9			19.0	18.2	18.4	18.0

Underwood-Ward Task Force

- Goal:** Provide options to the School Committee regarding the future of Underwood and Ward
- Review defined educational and facilities needs at both schools
 - Examine MSBA guidelines
 - Study other districts who faced similar circumstances
 - Examine future facilities options

Task Force Membership

- Chair Eva Thompson
- (3) Underwood staff
- (3) Ward Staff
- (2) Underwood parents
- (2) Ward parents
- (2) School Committee members
- (2) City Councilors
- (1) Assistant Superintendent
- NPS Director of Planning
- City Building Commissioner
- NTA President

Task Force Membership

- **Purpose:** To jointly address the future of both Underwood and Ward. Identify options/possibilities to share with School Committee and Superintendent
- **Need:** Two parent/guardian community members
- Able to attend 6 bimonthly meetings:
 - March 11 and 18
 - April 1 and 15
 - May 6 and 13
 - June 8 presentation
- Wednesdays, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., at Ed. Center and schools