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MEMORANDUM

October 16, 2006

TO: Joseph M. Sanches, Chief of Facilities Management
THROUGH: Kristin K. Garrison, Director of Planning *[Signature]*
FROM: Art Wittman, Demographer *[Signature]*
SUBJECT: OCTOBER FTE ENROLLMENT COUNT SY2006-07 (FY2007)

The October FTE enrollment count was completed Friday, October 13, 2006. **Total K-12 enrollment was 170,015 students, a decrease from last year's October FTE by 3,221 students.** Pre-kindergarten enrollment was 3,367 students. Table 1 summarizes the October 2006 FTE enrollment data.

TABLE 1 – ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

	October 13, 2006 FTE			
	2006-07	2005-06	Difference	%Difference
District Schools				
Elementary	74,748	76,304	(1,556)	(2.0%)
Middle	36,657	38,042	(1,385)	(3.6%)
High	<u>47,821</u>	<u>47,760</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>0.1%</u>
Total District Schools	159,226	162,106	(2,880)	(1.8 %)
Educational Alternative Schools	2,765	2,127	638	
ESE/Other Schools/Programs*	1,252	1,327	(75)	
Charter Schools	<u>6,772</u>	<u>7,676</u>	<u>(904)</u>	
TOTAL K-12 SCHOOLS	170,015	173,236	(3,221)	(1.9%)

*Includes 926 McKay Scholarship students

Note: Four SY2005-06 charter schools are now educational alternative schools in SY2006-07

Student enrollment growth declined this year, the first decline since 1971. Table 2 shows the change in student enrollment for the last five years. The October 2006 K-12 enrollment is 2,747 students lower than projected. K-12 enrollment declined by 567 students from the 11th day enrollment.

TABLE 2-ENROLLMENT COMPARISON

	FTE Enrollment	Change	% Change
October 2002	162,348	5,126	3.3%
October 2003	167,632	5,284	3.2%
October 2004	172,759	5,127	3.1%
October 2005	173,236	477	0.3%
October 2006	170,015	(3,221)	(1.9 %)

INFLUENCING FACTORS

Demographic trends and housing market factors are impacting public school enrollment. The leading edge of the baby-boom generation is 60 years old. This cohort includes over 80,000,000 people in the United States, over 4.5 million in Florida, and spans 20 years. The youngest baby boomer is now 40 years old. The leading years of this bubble include a greater number of empty nesters and early or part-time retirees households, which typically do not have school-age children. Moving forward in time, baby boomers should make-up a larger portion of home and condominium buyers in Palm Beach County compared to five or ten years ago. This generation will also affect the second home market.

Housing affordability is an apparent primary factor impacting enrollment change in public schools this year. The dramatic increase in the median price of single family homes over the 2004 to early 2006 period, conversion of over 12,000 rental apartment units to condominiums, higher rents, greater occupancy and fewer rental units, creative mortgage financing, foreclosures, home insurance rates, and investors are all factors which are directly or indirectly contributing to the enrollment decline. These factors are impacting families' decisions on whether to stay in Palm Beach County or relocate elsewhere. Families looking to relocate from the north or other regions of the United States may not chose Palm Beach County due to these factors.

ENROLLMENT CHANGE 2005 TO 2006

Table 3 tabulates October FTE enrollment for 2005 and 2006 by administrative area.

TABLE 3 – OCTOBER FTE ENROLLMENT 2005 & 2006, BY ADMINISTRATIVE AREA*

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005*</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Diff.</u>
NORTH AREA				
Elementary	15,598	16,002	(404)	(2.5%)
Middle	9,052	9,384	(332)	(3.5%)
High	<u>11,080</u>	<u>11,059</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>0.2%</u>
Total	35,730	36,445	(715)	(2.0%)
CENTRAL AREA				
Elementary	17,876	17,968	(92)	(0.5%)
Middle	9,269	9,387	(118)	(1.3%)
High	<u>10,564</u>	<u>10,401</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>1.6%</u>
Total	37,709	37,756	(47)	(0.1%)
WEST AREA				
Elementary	22,965	23,402	(437)	(1.9%)
Middle	9,804	10,218	(414)	(4.1%)
High	<u>11,786</u>	<u>11,576</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>1.8%</u>
Total	44,555	45,196	(641)	(1.4%)
SOUTH AREA				
Elementary	18,309	18,932	(623)	(3.3%)
Middle	8,532	9,053	(521)	(5.8%)
High	<u>14,391</u>	<u>14,724</u>	<u>(333)</u>	<u>(2.3%)</u>
Total	41,232	42,709	(1477)	(3.5%)

Some schools were assigned to different administrative areas between SY2005-06 and SY2006-07.
2005 enrollment totals based upon 2006 administrative areas (for comparison)

SY2006-07 enrollment in district schools declined by 2,880 students from last fall. The largest decline was in the South Administrative Area, which declined by 1477 students or 3.5%. The North and West administrative areas declined by 715 students and 641 students, respectfully. The Central Area had about the same enrollment as last year (-47 students).

The attached report provides enrollment, Class Size Reduction (CSR) capacity and CSR FISH utilization for each school. October FTE figures are compared to 11th day count enrollments and to FY2006 October FTE numbers by school and area. The October FTE report is a benchmark annual monitoring report for School Concurrency review. In reviewing the report, it is important to note the following factors:

- Most schools with greater than 110% FISH utilization have been designated for planned relief through projects listed in the FY07-FY11 Five Year Capital Plan, consistent with School Concurrency requirements. Four schools will be reviewed by the Technical Advisory Group in November and solutions recommended to maintain the level-of-service.
- Some schools may appear to be underutilized, however, special programs with lower class sizes often result in school utilization rates below 100% of capacity. Examples of lower utilization include:
 - Lower teacher ratios in accordance with Class Size Reduction requirements
 - Program space needs in order to serve high proportions of students with limited English proficiency and/or exceptional educational needs,
 - Unique design characteristics, such as open floor plans, split campuses, etc.
- Other factors affecting enrollment include the opening of new district and charter schools, educational alternative centers, choice academies and programs, and No Child Left Behind choice transfers.

Cc: Joseph M. Moore, Nat Harrington