

**WHITEFISH BAY SCHOOLS
1200 East Fairmount Avenue
Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin 53217**

**2012-13 School District Enrollment Report
and Projections for 2013-14**

**Dr. Mary J. Gavigan
District Administrator
October 17, 2012**

Introduction

Resident enrollment in the Whitefish Bay School District was projected to increase by 41 students from the Third Friday of 2011 to the Third Friday of the 2012-13 school year. When school opened this fall, resident enrollment was up by 62 students and overall enrollment grew by 54 students. These numbers are important as school district revenue is closely tied to student enrollment. Gradual increases in school enrollment serve to support budget stability without driving widely fluctuating expenditures.

Several grade level enrollment trends accounted for the enrollment increase. The largest enrollment increases occurred at grades four, seven and twelve. Fourth grade enrollment rose from 162 students last year to 213 this year with a net increase of 51 students. Similarly an enrollment increase occurred at seventh grade with enrollment growing from 173 students to 216 students with a net increase of 43 students. Twelfth grade saw an increase from 186 students a year ago to 219 students this year with a net increase of 33 students. Other significant growth occurred at tenth grade which grew from 208 students to 236 students.

This information and a variety of other data included throughout the report are intended to increase understanding of the trends and factors contributing to our current student enrollment experience. The information will also assist in planning for future enrollment and school district budget and staffing projections for the 2013-14 school year. As noted earlier, a major portion of school district revenues are determined by student enrollment. Consequently, this information is crucial to accurate planning and decision-making for next year.

Information presented in this report focuses primarily on enrollment of resident students since resident student enrollment is the basis for determining state aids and calculating the state imposed school district revenue cap, two crucial factors for determining resources available to support next year's budget. Other programs contributing to student enrollment such as the Chapter 220 Integration Program and the state Open Enrollment program, involve non-resident students. Enrollment in these programs is largely driven by school district decisions. Therefore, enrollment of nonresident students is less relevant to the enrollment analysis and projection processes even though they play an active role in budgeting and staffing decisions.

Summary of Third Friday School District Enrollment for the 2011-12 School Year

The official Third Friday Student Enrollment Count for the 2012-13 school year was taken on Friday, September 21st. The total count shows 3,121 resident and nonresident students enrolled in the school district (see Figure 1). This total reflects a resident student enrollment of 2,817, representing an increase of 62 residents over the Third Friday Pupil Count in September 2011 when 2,755 resident students were enrolled. As noted earlier, total student enrollment increased by 54 students. A total of 3,067 resident and non-resident students were enrolled a year ago at the time of the Third Friday Pupil Count.

The Whitefish Bay School District receives \$10,941 in revenue for each resident student served by the school district. Early childhood and half day kindergarten students generate only about half of this amount since they are less than full day programs. Consequently, enrollment increases at the early childhood and kindergarten levels have less of an impact on the budget in the current year than students enrolled in full day programs. However, as these students progress through the grades their impact on school district revenue will be positive and significant. Also noteworthy is that in the first year of enrollment new students generate only one-third of total pupil revenue.

In year two of enrollment the school district receives two-thirds of full funding and in the third year we receive full revenue for each student. A similar adjustment occurs when student enrollment declines. Revenue associated with a decrease in enrollment is decreased incrementally, thus cushioning the revenue impact of declining enrollment.

Students Transferring in for the 2012-13 School Year

A total of 171 students transferred into the Whitefish Bay Schools with the start of the 2012-13 school year (see Figure 2). This amount compares to 167 new students a year ago, representing an increase of 4 students transferring in. Consistent with historical patterns, new students entered the schools from a variety of locations. This year the largest source of new students was from private and parochial schools. Seventy-seven students fell in this category. Forty-four students transferred in from other Wisconsin schools and 36 transferred from school districts outside of Wisconsin. An additional 12 students enrolled from schools out of the country or through a student exchange program and 2 students transferred in after being home schooled.

Last year, the total number of new resident students transferring in from other Wisconsin public schools, schools located out of the state and out of the country decreased from the 2010-11 totals. This total was 18 students less than the number of new resident enrollees in the fall of 2010. This year, the total number of new resident students transferring in from other Wisconsin public schools, schools located out of the state and out of the country increased by 3 students from the 2011-12 totals.

Seventy-seven students transferred into the public schools from local private and parochial schools. This was similar from local private and parochial schools last year. This number remains the highest it has been in several years. In 2006-07, 26 students transferred in from private and parochial schools. In 2007-08, the number was 42. In 2008-09, 49 students transferred into public schools from local private and parochial schools. In 2009-10 and 2010-11, 56 students transferred in from local private and parochial schools. In 2011-12, 77 students transferred in from local and parochial schools. The largest number of students, 41, transferred in at ninth grade, consistent with historical patterns. This number is slightly down from last year, which was 46 students, but is still slightly higher than previous years.

The number of students enrolled through international exchange programs is 5 students, down 1 from last year.

Students Not Returning for the 2012-13 School Year

A total of 72 students who were in the official count on the Third Friday in September of 2011 did not return for the 2012-13 school year (see Figure 3). This number represents a 26 student decrease in the number of students transferring out compared to a year ago when 98 students transferred to schools elsewhere. Of the 72 students transferring out, 43 students transferred to other Wisconsin or out of state schools.

Twenty students transferred from the Whitefish Bay Schools to local private and parochial schools. This number is down 6 students from a year ago. Historic patterns have pointed to a large number of students transferring to private and parochial schools in the ninth grade. The largest number of students enrolled in a private or parochial school was in kindergarten with an enrollment increase of 10 and in the 9th grade also with an enrollment increase of 10. The total of 77 students transferring in from private and parochial schools and 20 students not returning for the 2012-13 school year represents a net gain of 57 students in the 2012-13 student enrollment totals. The net gain last year was 51 students.

Resident Student Enrollment History

Within the enrollment totals are several significant shifts at some grade levels. Obviously, these shifts have implications for staffing and related planning over the next several years (see Figure 4). The most significant grade-to-grade increase between 2011-12 and 2012-13 occurred at fourth grade, an increase of 51 students, at seventh grade, an increase of 43 students, and at twelfth grade, an increase of 33 students. The grade levels at which there were particularly significant year-to-year decreases, were K-4 with a decrease of 17 students, second grade with a decrease of 16 students, sixth grade with a decrease of 28 students and eighth grade with a decrease of 22 students.

Overall, the year-to-year class size comparisons signal a positive trend. Seven grade levels this year experienced an increase in enrollment and seven grade levels experienced a decline. Total resident student enrollment grew by 62 students this year and overall enrollment grew by 54.

Enrollment Projections

The Whitefish Bay School District utilizes an outside projection service to develop enrollment projections for the coming year and subsequent years. The projections are generated using three alternate methods by applying varying weight to key enrollment factors.

The first enrollment method projection gives extra weight to enrollment patterns over the past five years to forecast future enrollment. This method is most accurate when communities are stable and large enrollment swings are not anticipated.

The second projection method applies mostly to enrollment experienced in the immediately preceding year. This approach is most accurate in communities undergoing significant change or where enrollment is fluctuating significantly from year-to-year.

The third approach uses a combination of the first two methods with a balance of weight given to historical and more recent experiences. This approach is most accurate when some enrollment shifts are occurring within the context of relatively stable patterns and typically generates projections that fall between the first and second methods.

The student enrollment count recorded on the Third Friday in September this year was provided to the outside projection service along with resident and student enrollment data from the preceding four years. Enrollment projections for the 2013-14 school year using the three methods described above generated the following projections:

Method 1 predicts an increase of 35 students from the current year.

Method 2 predicts an increase of 46 students from the current year.

Method 3 predicts an increase of 39 students from the current year.

In light of the crucial role enrollment projections play in budget development and staffing decisions, the school district has taken a conservative approach historically when projecting student enrollment. Obviously, a number of unpredictable and uncontrollable factors may impact enrollment in the coming year. The school district seeks to avoid a planning approach that would add expenses not supported by revenue or offset by reductions in programs and services.

Consequently, the administration recommends the enrollment projection used for constructing the 2013-14 school district budget be Method 1. The enrollment projection will be adjusted upward or downward depending on additional enrollment information gained as a result of student registration and updated data later in the school year.

Figure 2
Incoming New Students for the 2012-13 School Year

GRADE	Private/ Parochial	WI Schools	Out of State	Out of Country	AFS/ YFU	Home Schooled	Tuition	None or Unknown	TOTAL
K5	20	7	3	1					31
1	2	8	2	1					13
2	2	3	1	2					8
3	2	4	1	1					8
4	4	3	6						13
5	2	2	3						7
6	8	5	4			1			18
7		4	4						8
8	2	2	4	1					9
9	33	5	3						41
10		1	1						2
11	2		2						4
12			2	1	5	1			9
12-13 TOTAL	77	44	36	7	5	2	0	0	171
11-12 TOTAL	77	46	23	14	6	1	0	0	167
CHANGE	0	-2	+13	-7	-1	+1	0	0	+4

Figure 3
Students Not Returning for the 2012-13 School Year

2011-12 GRADE	Private/ Parochial	WI Schools	Out of State	Out of Country	AFS/ YFU	Home Schooled	Tuition	None or Unknown	TOTAL
K5	3	1	6						10
1		2	1	3					6
2	2	3	3						8
3	1	1	2						4
4	1	1	4	1					7
5		2	1	2					5
6		2	2	1					5
7				1					1
8	1	1	1						3
9	8	1	1						10
10	2	1	2			1			6
11	2		2						4
12		1	2						3
12-13 TOTAL	20	16	27	8	0	1	0	0	72
11-12 TOTAL	26	23	35	12	1	1	0	0	98
CHANGE	-6	-7	-8	-4	-1	0	0	0	-26

Figure 4
Resident Student Enrollment History

Grade	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13 Change
K4	144	176	187	169	155	162	145	-17
K5	150	159	194	207	190	180	184	4
1	187	161	162	202	214	193	188	-5
2	157	193	165	167	204	210	194	-16
3	182	159	194	166	166	209	210	1
4	178	174	171	197	170	162	213	51
5	185	173	181	172	203	170	164	-6
6	188	195	183	195	179	211	183	-28
7	171	187	199	183	197	173	216	43
8	202	174	190	197	198	206	184	-22
9	224	191	182	214	211	234	236	2
10	205	212	191	180	216	208	236	28
11	221	199	213	187	177	210	204	-6
12	207	216	196	207	192	186	219	33
TOTAL	2601	2569	2608	2643*	2672	2714	2776	62

*Note: This total includes only resident students attending school in Whitefish Bay. Resident students participating in Chapter 220, Open Enrollment or on tuition waiver attending other schools are not included.