

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the Board on the elementary school enrollment capacity study.

Background:

At the December 12, 2024 Board meeting the superintendent informed the Board that he was initiating an elementary school enrollment capacity study to address Portland State University's 2023 forecasted enrollment report indicating that Molalla River Elementary School and Rural Dell Elementary School enrollment will be over capacity in 2025-2026 and the overcapacity situation is forecasted to worsen over the next 10 years.

Update:

The updated enrollment forecast is scheduled to be available by the end of February 2025.

Superintendent's Cabinet and elementary school principals completed phase 1 of the study to draft preliminary findings for four options to address the overcapacity and have a solution in place by Fall 2026. The four initial options include:

1. Boundary Change
2. Grade reconfiguration change
3. Satellite location(s)
4. Modular classrooms

Phase 1 of the study compiled data on the four options, including one-time costs, on-going costs, considerations, feasibility, and pros/cons. The draft preliminary findings staff developed are attached.

The following is the tentative timeline and next steps:

February 2025:

- Create Elementary School Capacity Committee made up of parents and staff.

March 2025:

- Committee meets to examine options and findings, add to and revise the findings as needed, and provide a recommendation to the Superintendent that address the forecasted overcapacity issue.

April / May 2025:

- Parent outreach and regarding the proposed recommendation to the Board.
- Superintendent presents the recommendation to the Board to address elementary school capacity and provide opportunity for public input. Up to three board meetings are available for public input if needed.

June 2025 – June 2026

- Work on the board-approved strategy to implement Fall 2026.