Oyster River Cooperative School District School Board

Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)

1/25/2021, 7 pm via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Katrin Kasper, Rob McEwan, Giana Gelsey, Kent Kasper, Erik Ickes, Robert Mohr, David Taylor

School Board Representative Present: Denise Day

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Josh Olstad, ORCSD's Information Technology Director, presented information regarding creating a Microsoft Teams group for LRPC members, as well as a LRPC email address and data storage space within the ORCSD computer system. This will ensure public transparency and continuity of data and information sharing going forward.

It was agreed that Marie O'Neill from Madbury will be removed from the committee, and that Robert Mohr will be retiring from the committee after this year. At this time, LRPC needs two additional members: one from Madbury and one from Durham. It was also agreed that Katrin Kasper is the new chair of the committee.

As per earlier discussion, the meeting proceeded to review the model in detail for purposes of understanding by both old and new members, with the intent of attempting to improve the model moving forward.

Denise Day mentioned that she queried Superintendent Morse on the continuing mission and purpose of the LRPC. It was stated that Dr. Morse viewed it as extremely important to continue providing the projections, with particular emphasis in trying to improve the projections regarding class sizes between Moharimet and Mast Way for staffing and budgetary purposes.

David Taylor agreed to review and present the data input categories in the model.

Following are notes regarding the data summary for the model.

There are two main aspects of the model.

- the cohort survival model, known as the grade progression ratio (GPR)
    - done with linear regression model
- calculating the number of incoming K and/or 1st grade students
    - births by town from NH Office of Strategic Planning
    - data need to be in academic year form (Oct-Oct) rather than calendar year for improved accuracy
        - in model, state=calendar, month=academic fiscal
    - some limitations due to privacy with low numbers
    - birth data lag due to delay in reporting (hospital location versus residential location)

Review of data tabs, including but not limited to:

Housing

- tried in past to find correlation between building houses and enrollment
    - coefficient too small to be used
    - also very uneven data due to housing boom infrequency
    - land in ORCSD catchment currently unlikely to have a large housing boom as there was in ’86-‘86

GPR projection (linear progression model)

- average of first 5 years
    - cohort survival model
- may be at steady state
- should test with backcast

Enrollment

- census data
- project forward with GPR
- high school has both with and without tuition students from Barrington

Takeaways:

- larger errors when moving 5 years ahead, but oddly upside down U-shaped curve going past 5 years
    - need better way to calculate error
- Ideas for future:
    - Find way of getting better idea of Mast Way and Moharimet split
    - Need to value elements, i.e. space in schools
    - Look at housing sale data to see if can develop coefficient for real estate influence
    - Perhaps building permits?
    - Brainstorm for next meeting

To do list:

- Katrin Kasper to get birth data to run this year’s model
    - Will be errors due to COVID
- Prepare to backcheck model
- Robert Mohr will present linear regression model in next meeting

Next meeting set February 8, 7 pm, via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Minutes submitted by Giana Gelsey