

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



# Oct. 5 Community Presentation

# Welcome Back!

- Please introduce yourself to others seated near you
- Sign-in



# I Have A Question or Comment!



Complete a form:

Let's Talk at [u-46.org/letstalk](https://u-46.org/letstalk)

Email to [UniteU46@u-46.org](mailto:UniteU46@u-46.org)

Ask during small group work time

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46  
**Unite46**  
Moving Forward Together

**I HAVE A QUESTION!**

I would like to be contacted by a Unite U-46 representative who can respond to this question/comment:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your question or comment may be directly related to the community engagement project or any other matter regarding the school district.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

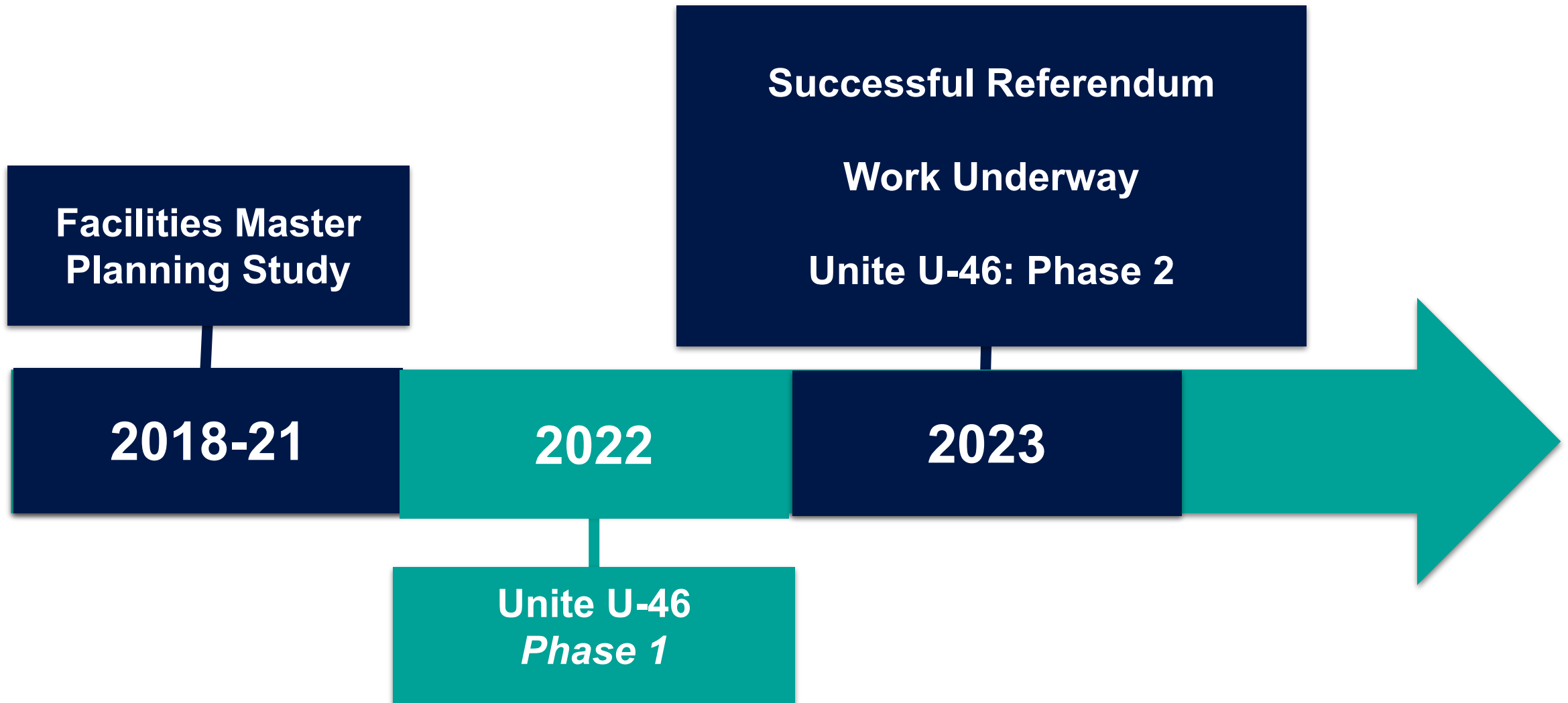
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**UniteU46@u-46.org**  
**UniteU46.com**

# Where We've Been. Where We're Headed.







## Tonight's Agenda

- **Unite U-46 Phase 2 Charge**
- **New Data & Information To Refine Our Plan**
- **Our Next Steps**

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



# Why We're Here

# Our Charge From The Board

# Unite U-46 Phase 2 Charge



- Review and analyze new data and information to refine the Unite U-46 recommendations.
- Establish priorities and standards for building updates.
- Determine how many elementary and middle schools our community needs.
- Evaluate criteria to determine new attendance boundaries.
- Review options for how students, staff, and families will transition to new schools.

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



**A Look At Where  
We Are Starting From**



# First, a celebration

ELGIN COURIER-NEWS

## U-46 building bond referendum passes with large majority

THE  
**COURIER-NEWS**

Elgin Courier-News • Apr 04, 2023 at 11:01 pm



# Unite U-46 Recommendations Status

## RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE

GOALS TO ACCOMPLISH RECOMMENDATIONS	STATUS As Of 10/5/23
<p>Increase the annual budget for maintenance and repairs by \$10 million per year as recommended by architectural firm DLR Group in the facilities master plan. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protecting the \$1.5 billion investment our community has made in our school buildings by proactively maintaining and updating building infrastructure items like roofs, windows, electrical systems, plumbing and HVAC systems.</li><li>Ensuring all U-46 schools have up-to-date safety and security features, including secure entryways, lockable doors in every classroom and are ADA accessible,</li><li>Maintaining and adding more outdoor learning spaces and environments and updating playgrounds and greenspaces.</li></ul>	<p>Planning for increased maintenance and repairs districtwide to start in Summer 2024.</p> <p>Full building audit underway to assess condition of schools and community priorities.</p>
Balance enrollment at schools throughout the District.	Unite U-46: Phase Two to address community priorities and options for updates to attendance boundaries.
Improve equitable access to programs at more schools districtwide.	Work to balance enrollments across the district through boundary adjustments will also include a review of program placements (dual language, gifted, special education)
Update elementary school buildings to support expanded preschool opportunities for more students districtwide.	2023/24 school year, additional preschool classrooms were added at four schools. 134 more slots for our youngest learners.
Implement a true 6th through 8th grade middle school model districtwide.	Plans are underway to provide more equitable middle school facilities districtwide as 6th through 8th grade middle school model is implemented.
Develop an initial timeline for the implementation of the Unite U-46 recommendations and thoroughly communicate this timeline with the community.	Underway as part of Unite U-46: Phase Two

Efforts underway  
to implement  
recommendations  
since December.

# Guiding Principles As We Move Forward



- The Board is committed to the Unite U-46 plan to move schools forward
- We will continue to encourage community involvement throughout the process
- Existing buildings that do not meet the needs of students and teachers must be addressed
- We must remain fiscally responsible and phase in building updates
- Decisions must be rooted in data and best practices
- If a school is retired, students will transition to an improved learning environment

# Changing Factors

- Enrollment
- Construction costs and inflation
- Land availability
- Ongoing development of middle school instructional model

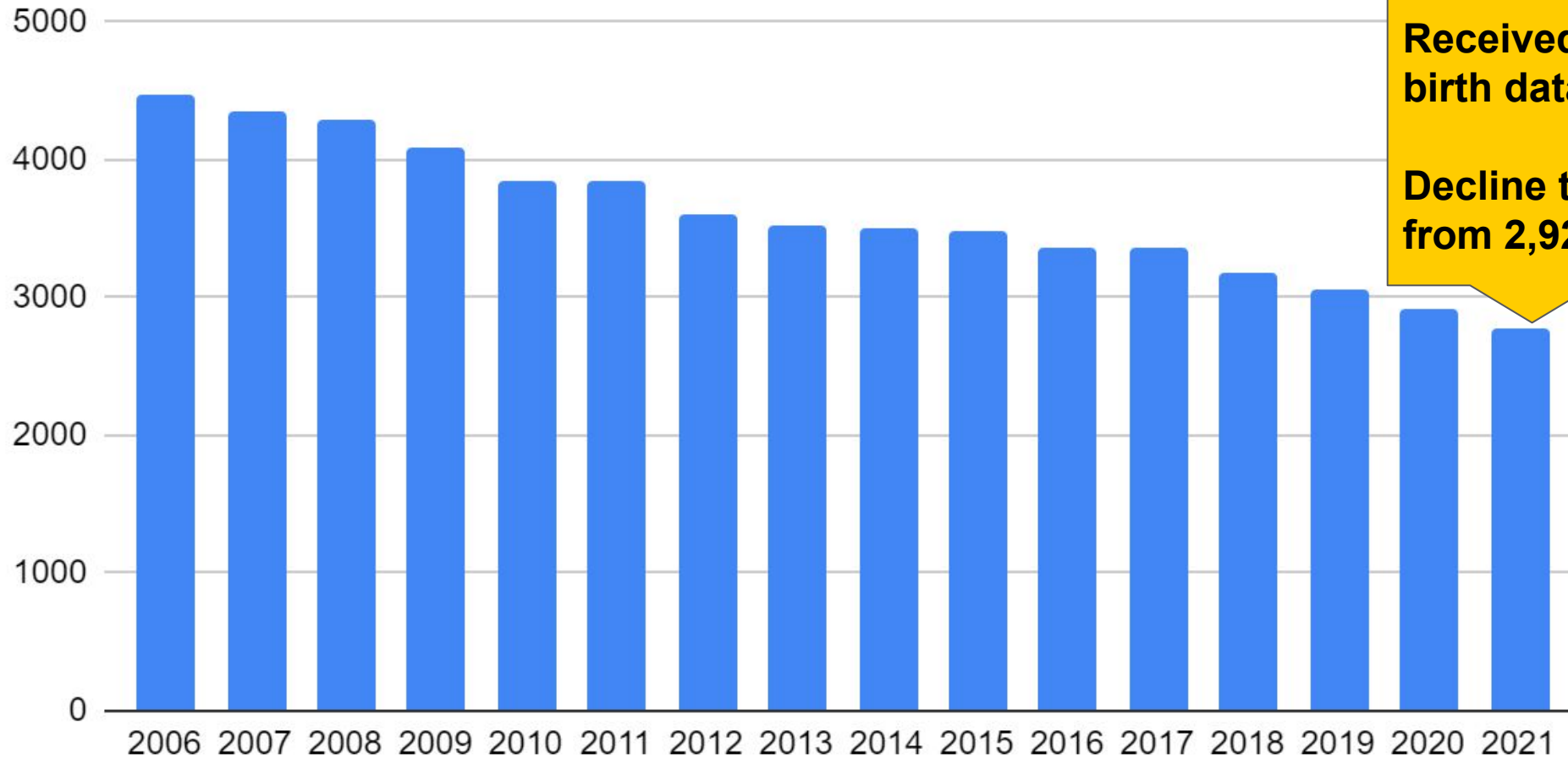
SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



**New Data & Information  
To Fulfill The Charge &  
Refine Unite U-46 Plan**



# Number of Births in U-46

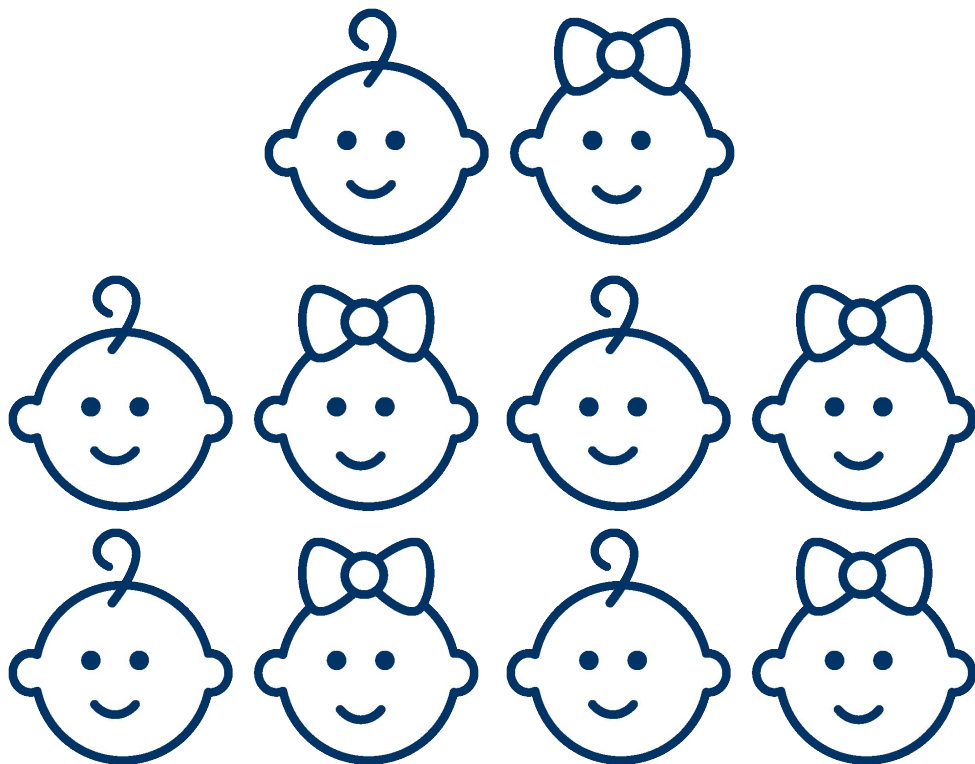


**Received 2021 actual birth data in April.**

**Decline to 2,773 births from 2,925 in 2020.**

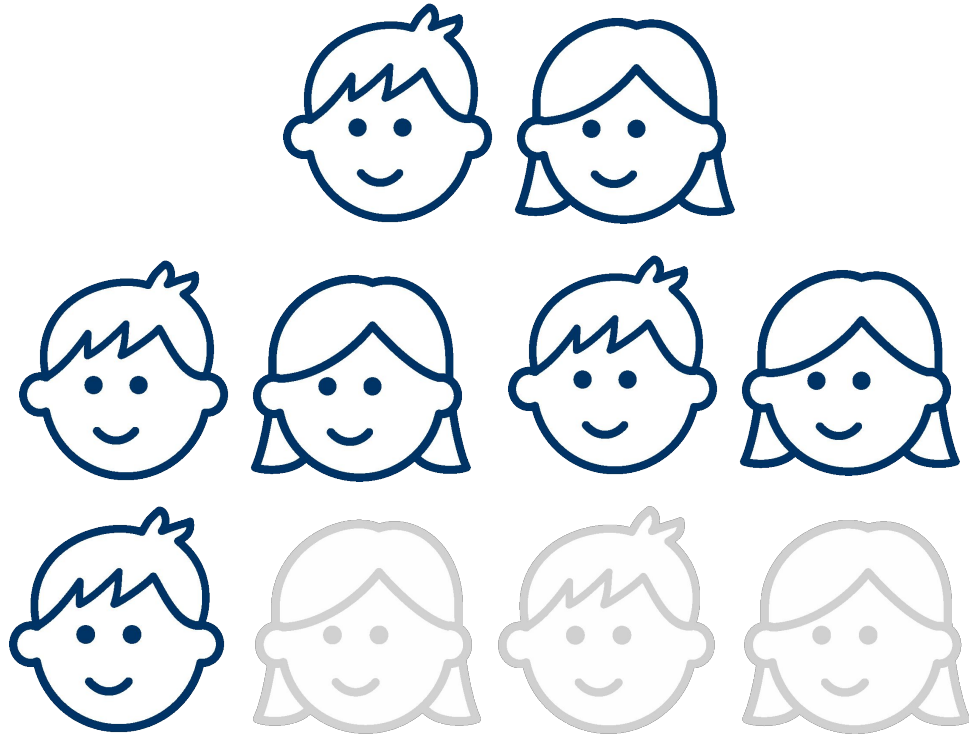
Historical Birth Data in U-46 Attendance Area

# How Births Impact Enrollment Projections



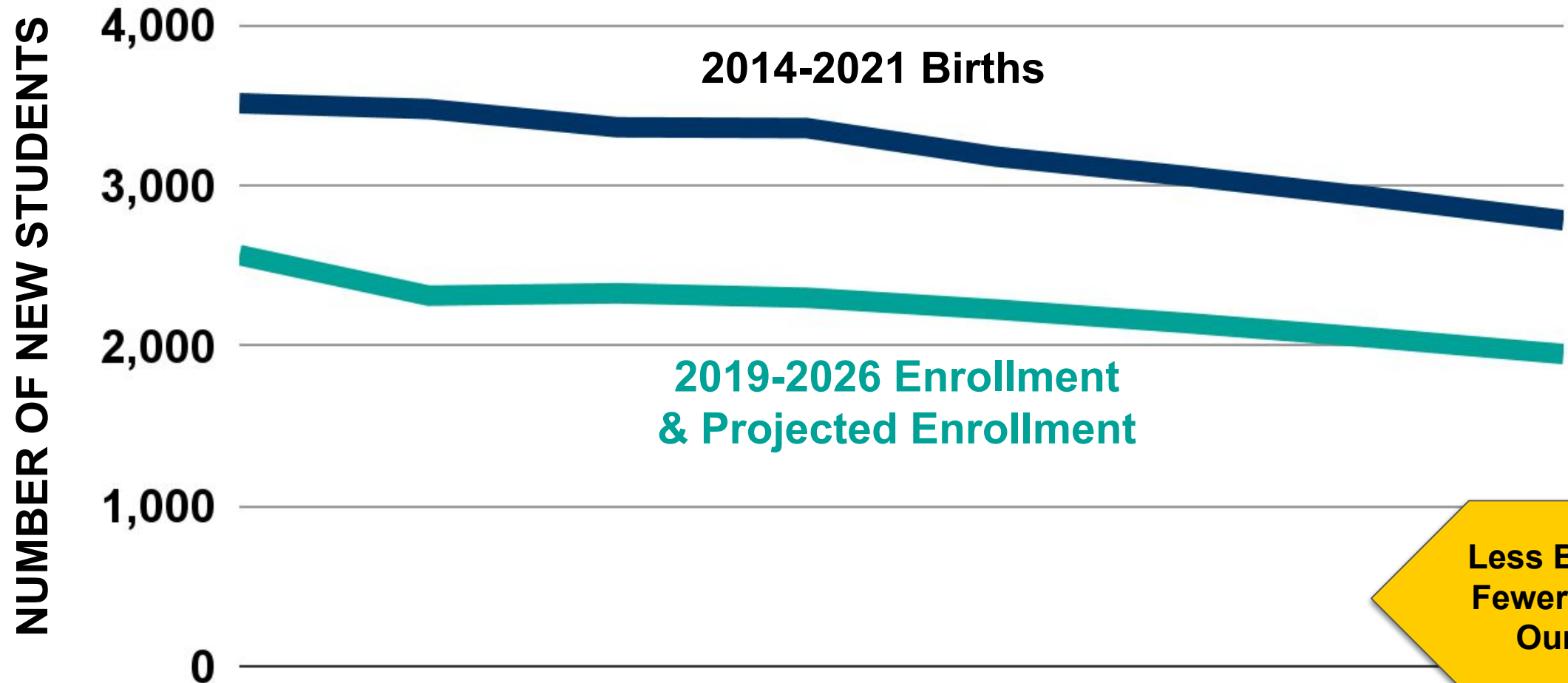
**On average,  
for every 10  
babies born  
within U-46**

# How Births Impact Enrollment Projections



**Around 7 will  
enroll for  
kindergarten  
five years later**

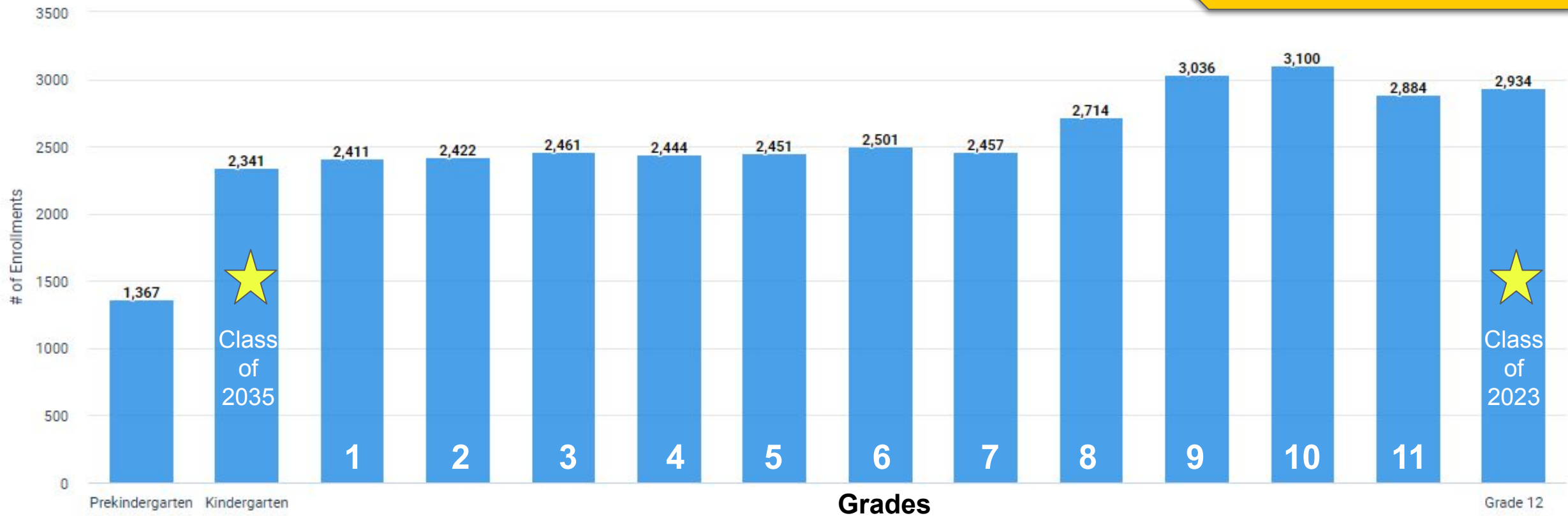
# How Births Impact Enrollment Projections



**Less Births Means  
Fewer Students In  
Our Schools**

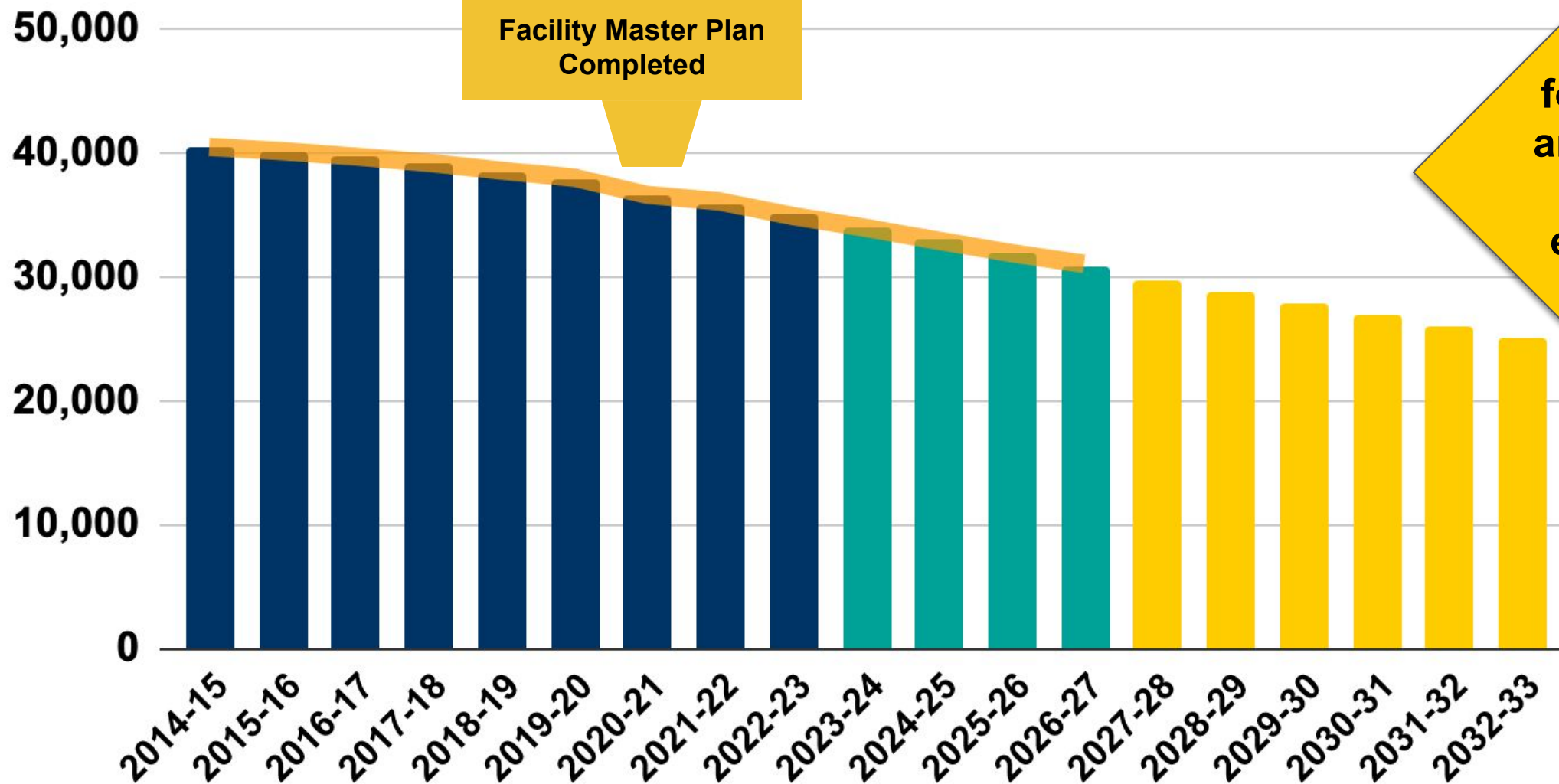
# 2022-2023 Enrollment by Grade

High school grades have  
400 or more students  
per grade than  
elementary grades





# Updated Enrollment Projections



**Enrollment forecast projects an additional 28% decrease in enrollment from 2023-2033**

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



# *Refining The Plan* Middle Schools

# Achieving our Goals

*From Unite U-46 recommendations to Board of Education on December 12, 2022*



**Make necessary updates to existing middle schools to implement 6th-8th grade model.**

# A Day in the Life of a Current 6th Grader

**Language and reading block: 2 hours  
of integrated curriculum: literacy  
and science or social studies**

**30 minutes of  
lunch and 30  
minutes of recess**



**Students arrive, eat  
breakfast, and have  
morning meeting**

**1 hour of  
math  
instruction**

**Art, music, PE,  
and library  
once per week**

**45 minutes  
of writing  
instruction**

# The Middle School Teaming Model

## Example \*Gen. Ed. Team

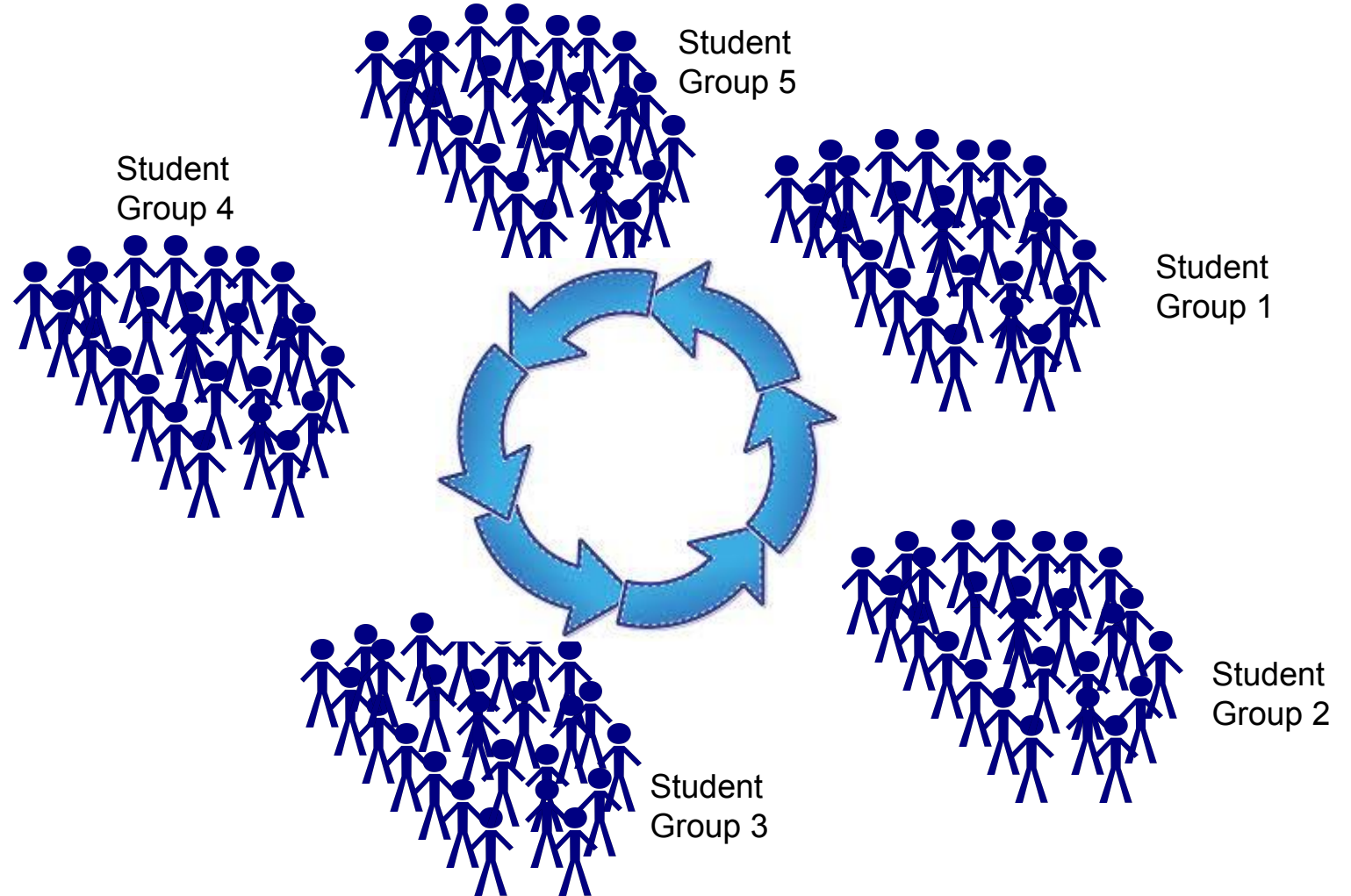
Math Teacher

ELA Teacher

Science Teacher

Social Studies Teacher

Elective Teacher







# Benefits of the Middle School Teaming Model

- Personalized learning, tracking progress, and addressing individual needs.
- Fosters strong teacher-student relationships and enhances education.
- Provides opportunities for curriculum integration to enhance relevant, inquiry-based instruction.



# ***Middle School Updates***

**Resolution approved by Board of Education on 9/25**



- **Updated timing for the shift of 6th grade to middle school to occur in 2026-2027 school year**
- **Construction of a new middle school**
- **Additions at Kimball Middle School and Kenyon Woods Middle School**
- **Retire Abbott Middle School and Ellis Middle School after the 2025-2026 school year**



# Middle School Updates

## Hawk Hollow

- Obtained zoning approval
- Currently in construction bidding process
- Scheduled to break ground February 2024
- Planned Capacity 750 students



**Hawk Hollow Virtual Walk-Through**

Scan QR Code →



# Middle School Updates

## Why is U-46 building a new Middle School?

- Replaces two schools that are not cost effective to update and do not have space for additions or rebuilds
- Provides a safe and modern learning environment for students at two of our oldest middle schools
- Prioritizes flexible and innovative learning spaces that will allow our curriculum & instruction to come to life
- Reduces annual maintenance and operational costs
- Improves equity districtwide

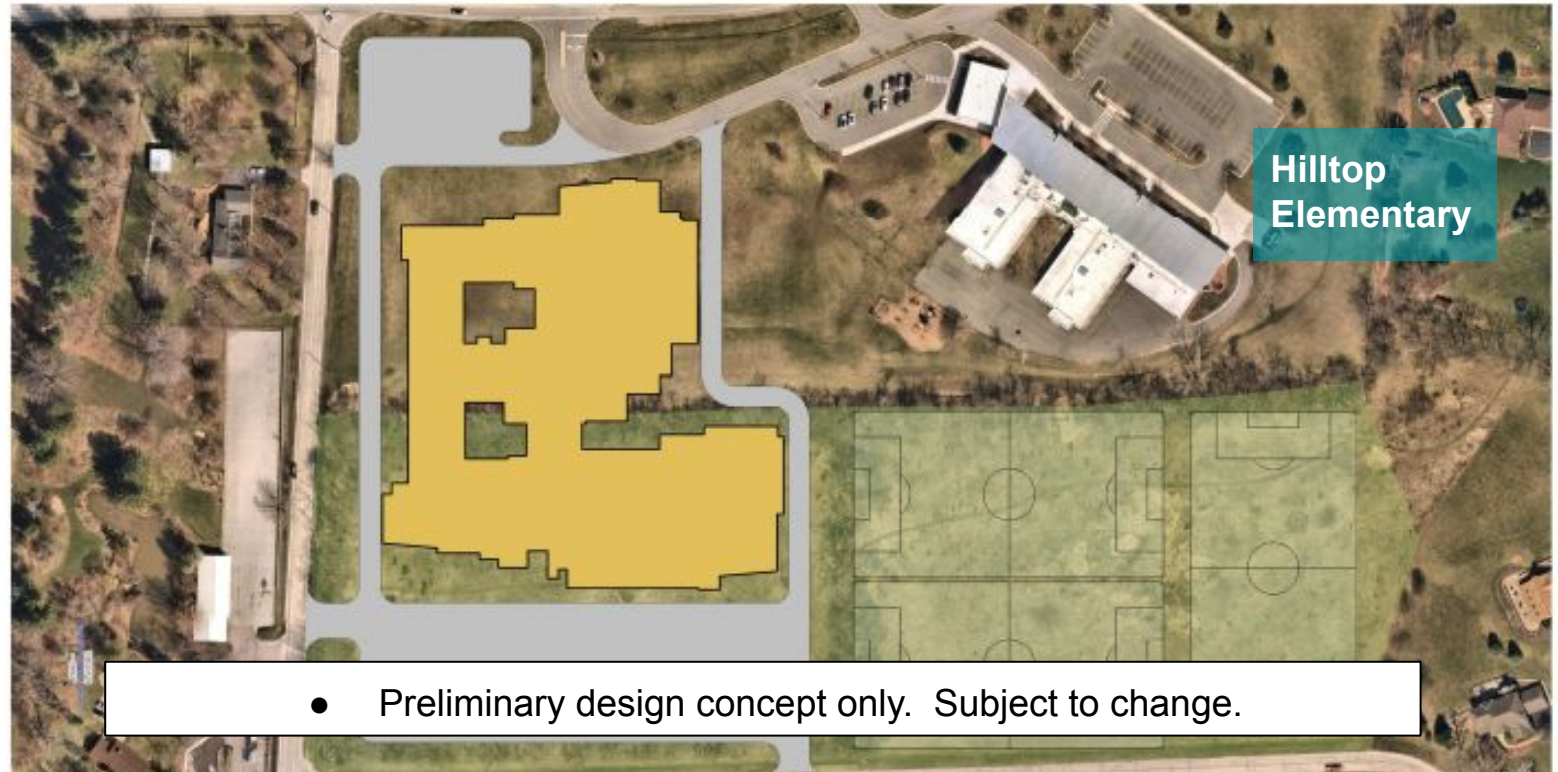




# Middle School Updates

## Proposed location for the new Middle School

- U-46 signed purchase and sale agreement for 12.4 acre property
- Several design options with adjacent land at Hilltop Elementary
- In NE corner of current Ellis MS attendance area
- Will need zoning approval from City of Elgin
- If project is approved and started in Fall, could be ready for 2026-2027 year



# Middle School Updates Kimball

- Addition to increase capacity to 1,125
- Would receive additional students from neighboring schools
- If project is approved and started in Fall, could be ready for 2026-2027 year





# Middle School Updates Kenyon Woods

- Addition to increase capacity to 1,125
- Would receive students from Abbott
- If project is approved and started in Fall, could be ready for 2026-2027 year



# Middle School Updates

## Canton, Eastview, Larsen, Tefft

- Determine investment needed to provide:
  - Secure, easily identifiable main entrances
  - Updated science labs
  - STEM / Tech / Career and Technical Education spaces
  - Flexible learning and collaboration spaces





# Middle School Updates

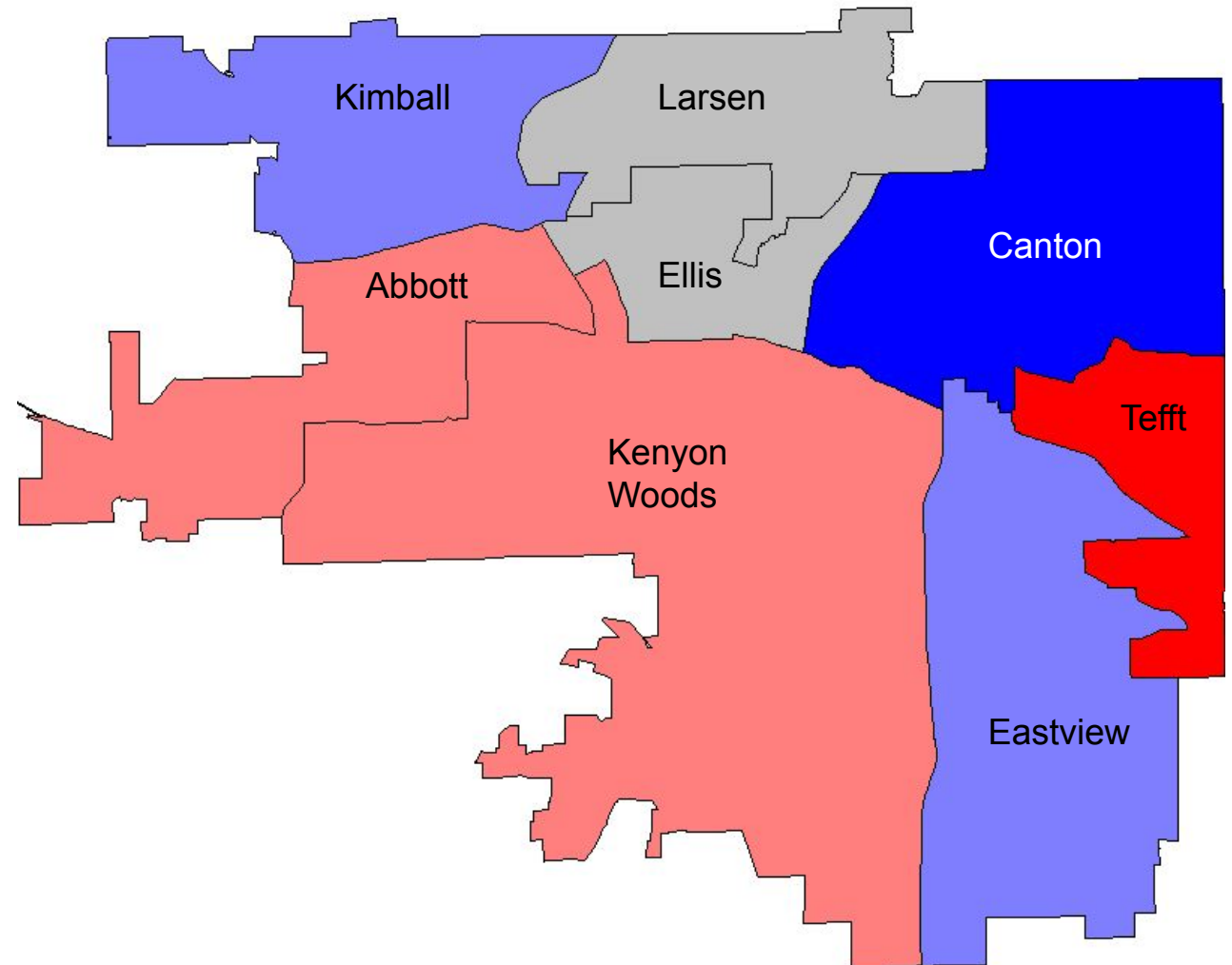
## Abbott and Ellis



**Ellis, Abbott to be retired following the  
2025-2026 school year**

# Middle School Capacity Utilization (2022-2023)

	Percent Capacity	Schools
	51-62%	1
	63-74%	2
	75-86%	2
	87-98%	2
	99-113%	1





# *Middle School Updates*

## Capacity After Improvements

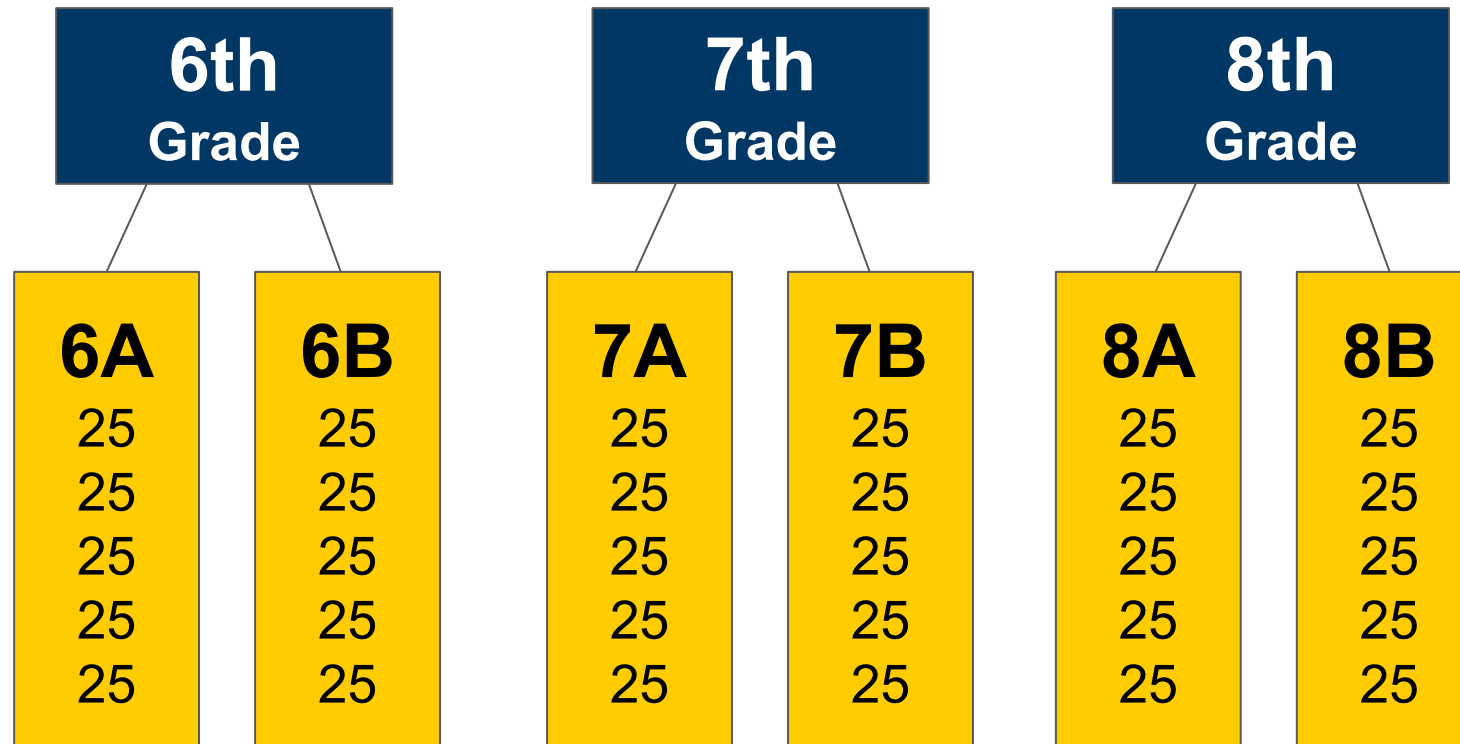
School	Capacity After Improvements
New Middle School	1,125
Kimball	1,125
Kenyon Woods	1,125
Hawk Hollow	750
Eastview	750
Canton	750
Tefft	750
Larsen	600
Total	6,975 Students

**Capacities will support 6th through 8th grade middle school teaming model**

# Middle School Updates

## Capacity Models: 750 Students

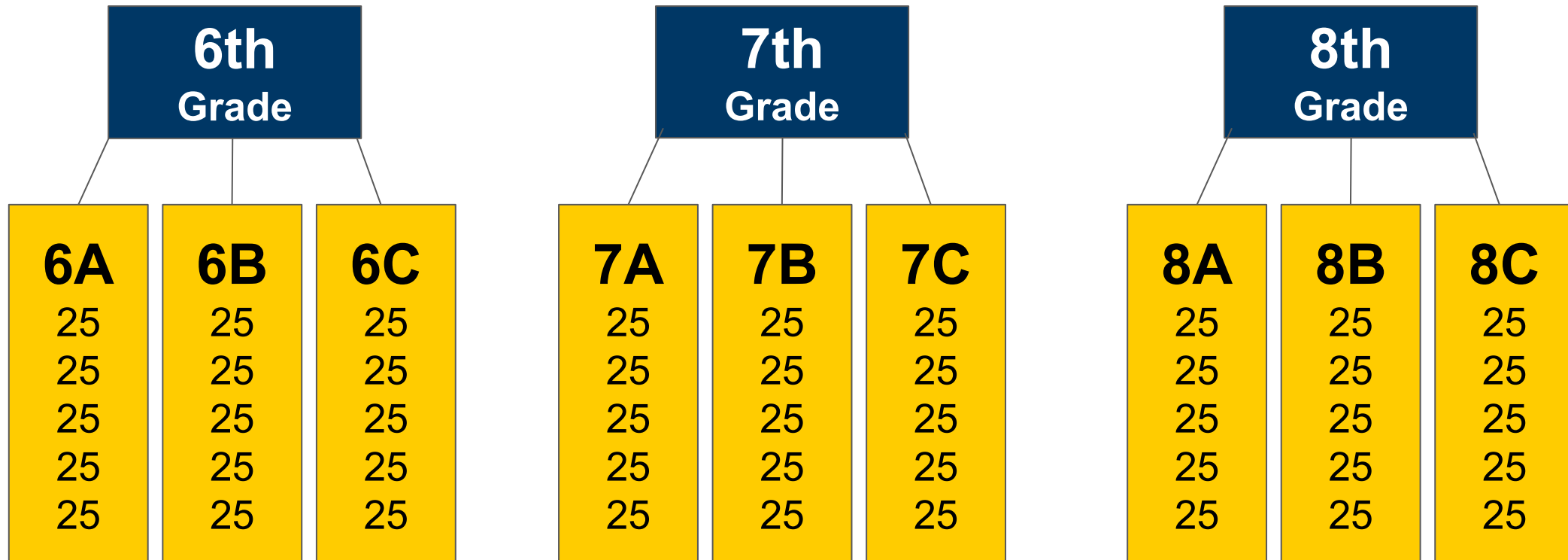
### 750 Students 2 Teams Per Grade Level



# Middle School Updates

## Capacity Models: 1,125 Students

**1,125 Students**  
**3 Teams Per Grade Level**



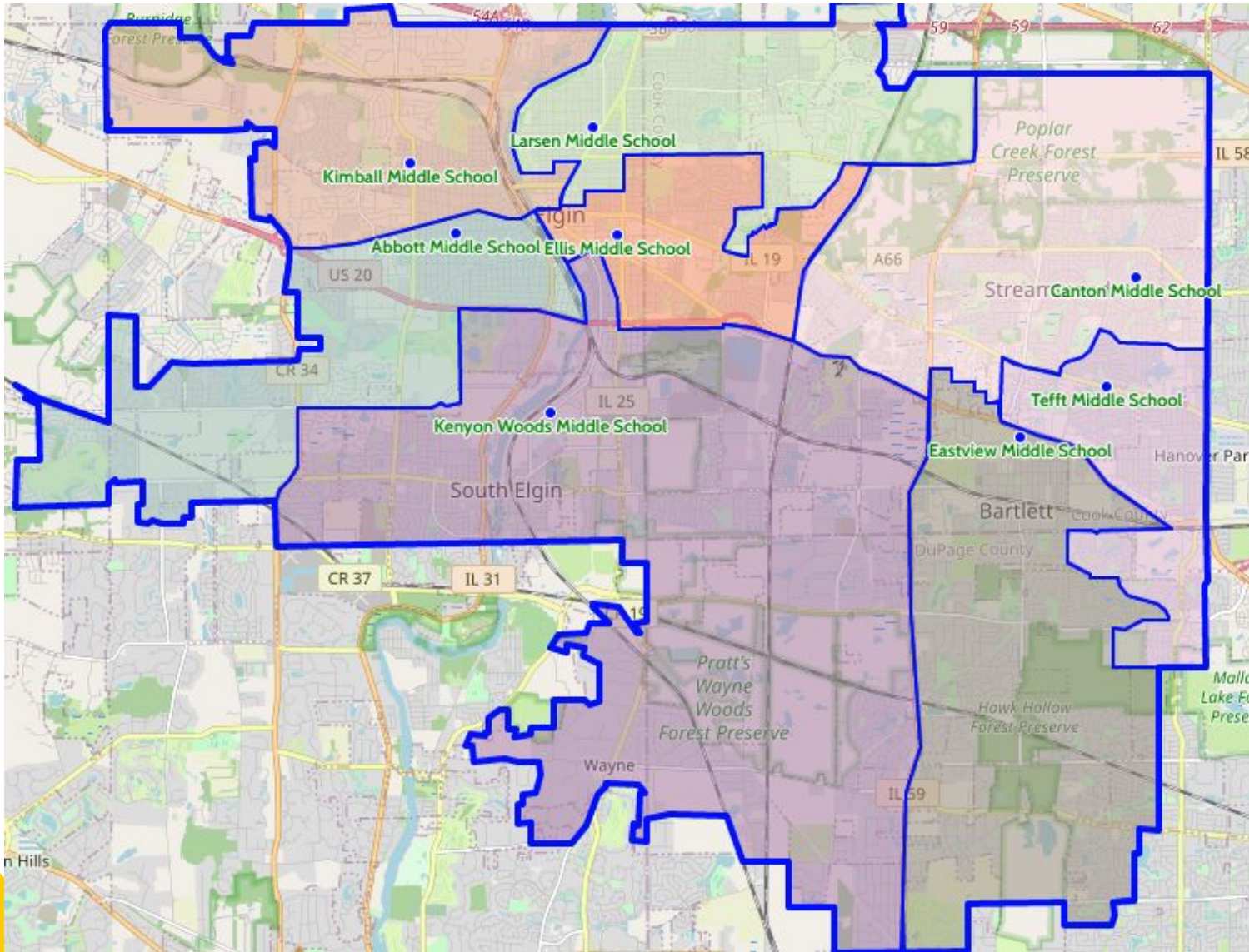
# Middle School Updates

## Enrollment Projections

Year	Projected Middle School Enrollment
2023-24	7,062
2024-25	6,953
2025-26	6,827
2026-27	6,780
2027-28	6,664
2028-29	6,529
2029-30	6,333
2030-31	6,122

**Proposed Transition To  
6th - 8th Grade Middle  
School Model.  
Projected Capacity  
6,975 Students.**

# Impact on School Boundaries



SDU46



## OUR SCHOOLS

- Our Schools
- Calendar
- Our Boundaries
- What School Do I

## Interactive District Boundary Map

Every school in School District U-46 has a geographical area eligible to attend a school. [CLICK HERE](#) to re

**Interactive boundary map**  
available on district  
website under "Our  
Schools"

Scan QR Code →



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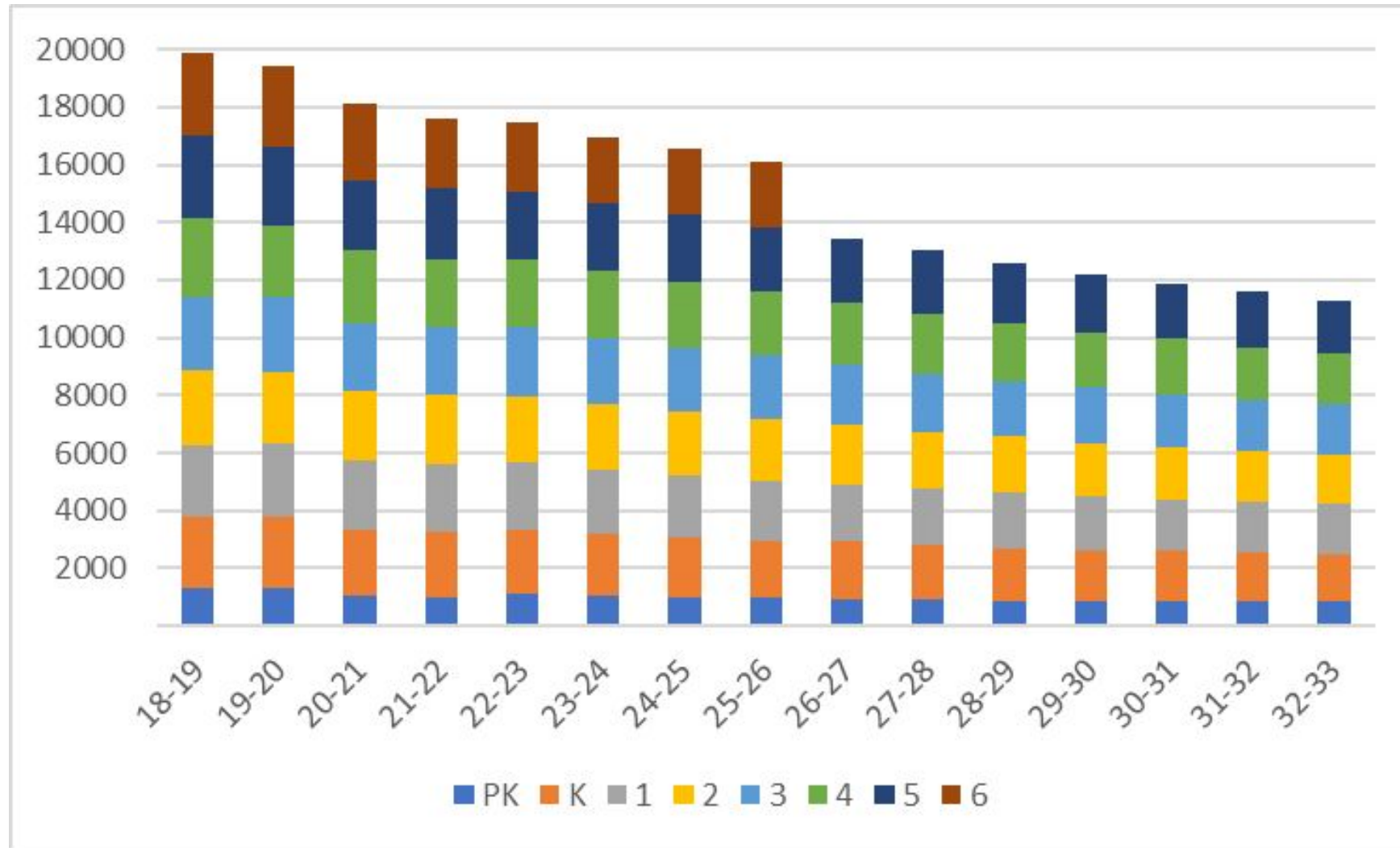


## *Refining The Plan*

# Elementary Building Analysis & Priorities



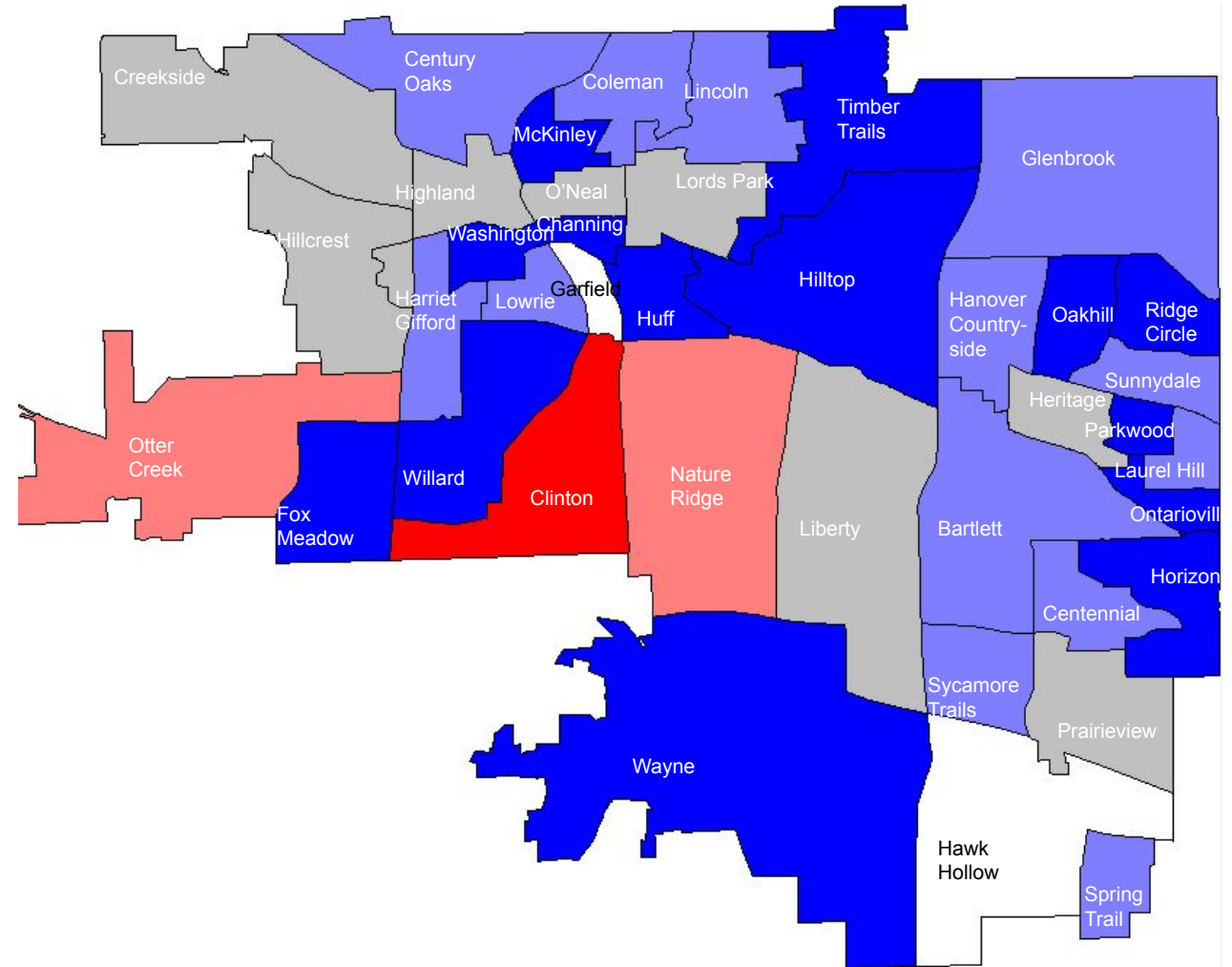
# Elementary Enrollment Trend



**40% fewer  
students in our  
elementary  
schools**

# Projected Capacity Utilization of Elementary Schools (2026-2027)

	Percent Capacity	Schools
	51-62%	14
	63-74%	13
	75-86%	8
	87-98%	2
	99-113%	1



*Note: 2027 elementary enrollment data includes only grades K-5*

# Age of U-46 Elementary Schools



3 built prior to 1900



10 built between  
1900-1960



13 built between  
1960-1980



12 built since 1980

**68% of our elementary schools were built prior to 1980**

# All U-46 Students Should:

*From Unite U-46 recommendations to Board of Education on December 12, 2022*



- **Have the opportunity to learn in schools that are:**
  - Safe and secure.
  - Accessible to all.
  - Proactively maintained and updated as needed.
  - Adaptable to changing technology.
  - Integrated with the outdoors and nature.
  - Updated to include collaborative, flexible spaces that encourage group and self-learning.
  - Replaced when they have reached a point where they are more expensive to repair or renovate than replace.



# Renovate, Rebuild, or Retire Schools





# Elementary School Considerations

- Secure entries
- Updated libraries
- Art, music classrooms
- Program locations
- Early learning classrooms
- Adequate space in lunchrooms, gymnasiums
- Appropriate office space



# Building Analysis & Priorities

- **Current audit of every elementary building over 35-years-old**
  - Capacity
  - Site size (acreage)
  - Safety & security
  - Accessibility
  - Equitable access to learning spaces
    - Classrooms
    - Art & Music spaces
    - Common spaces
      - Library, Gymnasium, Cafeteria, Outdoor Learning



## Small Group Work Activity

# Select Recorder & Spokesperson

## Recorder Responsibilities

- Complete the information on the group's worksheet

## Facilitator Responsibilities

- Facilitate discussion
- Keep group focused and on task
- Report group's information





# Ground Rules

- Focus on collective good, not just individual
- Be positive; focus on being productive
- Respect the opinions of fellow group members
- Give everyone an opportunity to speak
- Stay engaged with the conversation





# Small Group Work Activity

- **Task #1:**
  - How Important Are Each Of The Following Planning Parameters For Elementary Facilities?
- **Task #2:**
  - Top 5 Planning Priorities: Now, please rank the five criteria above that your group thinks are most important.
- **Task #3:**
  - Other Suggestions/Questions

# Small Group Work Activity

20:00

# Next Steps/Schedule

## Future Sessions:

- November 2
- December TBD
- February TBD
- March TBD

## Topics to cover in 2023-24:

- Building audit and priorities
- Criteria to determine how many schools needed to serve our community
- Attendance boundary planning criteria and parameters
- Transitioning to new schools

### NEXT STEPS FOR U-46 MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

**Be a part of the exciting change:** Join Our Unite U-46 Update Community Engagement Session



**THURSDAY, OCT. 5**



**7 p.m.**



**Elgin High School**

1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin (Use Door 1)

**As part of Unite U-46, you'll have the opportunity to:**



Review and analyze data



Establish "district standards" and priorities for updates to buildings



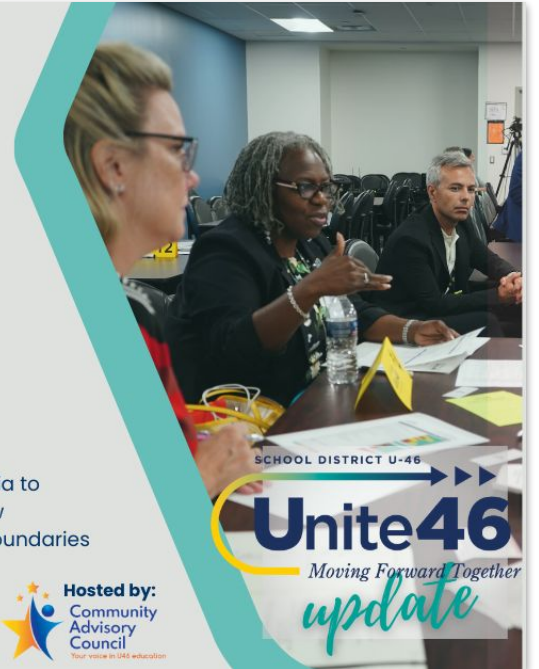
Evaluate criteria to determine new attendance boundaries

**REGISTER NOW**

**[U-46.ORG/UNITEU46](https://u-46.org/uniteu46)**



**Hosted by:**  
Community  
Advisory  
Council  
Your voice in U-46 education



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**Thank You!**  
**Next Session**  
**Nov. 2**