

Education Estimating Conference
Public Schools Capital Outlay Full-Time Equivalent Membership
Executive Summary
July 29, 2020

On July 13, 2020, the Education Estimating Conference met in the first phase of a two-stage process to adopt a forecast for Capital Outlay Full-Time Equivalent Membership (COFTE) through the 2030-31 school year. Because its primary use is for long-term district facility planning and a reversion to historical trends is expected to occur after a vaccine against COVID-19 has been widely distributed, the Conference made no pandemic-related adjustments to its traditional cohort survival method of calculating growth. After the initial meeting, the forecast was shared with the school districts for their review and input. A handful of districts contacted DOE with general questions regarding COFTE; however, no formal requests for review or alternative forecasts were submitted. The Education Estimating Conference met again on July 29, 2020, for the final adoption of the forecast as originally presented.

The following table shows the state-level COFTE enrollment as adopted by the Conference. The “Annual Change” columns represent the statewide change in enrollment from the prior year. Variations in annual change are due to different-sized grade cohorts moving through the public school system over time, as well as program participation estimates that impact the number of children expected to be in district-owned facilities. COFTE growth for the purposes of facility planning is calculated at the individual district level and is the difference between the current year and the maximum of the prior three years.

COFTE Enrollment Forecast						
	PreK-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12	PreK-12		
				Total	Annual Change	Annual Percent Change
Actual 2014-15	1,157,554.98	541,261.97	724,620.99	2,423,437.94		
Actual 2015-16	1,159,970.86	538,144.87	734,976.15	2,433,091.88	9,653.94	0.4%
Actual 2016-17	1,160,800.21	543,046.08	737,492.96	2,441,339.25	8,247.37	0.3%
Actual 2017-18	1,152,283.56	555,076.70	740,346.11	2,447,706.37	6,367.12	0.3%
Actual 2018-19	1,142,426.42	560,420.03	740,841.21	2,443,687.66	(4,018.71)	(0.2%)
Actual 2019-20	1,126,472.35	570,485.19	737,233.46	2,434,191.00	(9,496.66)	(0.4%)
Proj. 2020-21	1,123,503.70	568,348.56	749,474.73	2,441,326.99	7,135.99	0.3%
Proj. 2021-22	1,129,090.75	561,607.91	760,001.36	2,450,700.02	9,373.03	0.4%
Proj. 2022-23	1,133,393.26	549,549.38	772,650.28	2,455,592.92	4,892.90	0.2%
Proj. 2023-24	1,138,868.73	542,337.50	775,974.03	2,457,180.26	1,587.34	0.1%
Proj. 2024-25	1,143,558.63	540,253.29	766,952.74	2,450,764.66	(6,415.60)	(0.3%)
Proj. 2025-26	1,152,245.25	539,976.83	758,312.25	2,450,534.33	(230.33)	(0.0%)
Proj. 2026-27	1,159,489.16	544,629.07	745,458.40	2,449,576.63	(957.70)	(0.0%)
Proj. 2027-28	1,167,137.81	552,441.58	736,969.12	2,456,548.51	6,971.88	0.3%
Proj. 2028-29	1,179,119.29	557,823.13	734,499.37	2,471,441.79	14,893.28	0.6%
Proj. 2029-30	1,194,134.19	559,010.02	737,070.30	2,490,214.51	18,772.72	0.8%
Proj. 2030-31	1,213,715.18	555,920.86	743,106.42	2,512,742.46	22,527.95	0.9%

Note: 'PreK' figures include only pre-school age children with disabilities (ESE) and pre-school age children whose parents are in the Teenage Parent Program. It does not include children participating exclusively in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program who receive those services through the public school system.