



Synchronizing Enrollment, Capacity & Residential Developments in Durham



Durham City Council Work Session
September 5, 2024



OVERVIEW



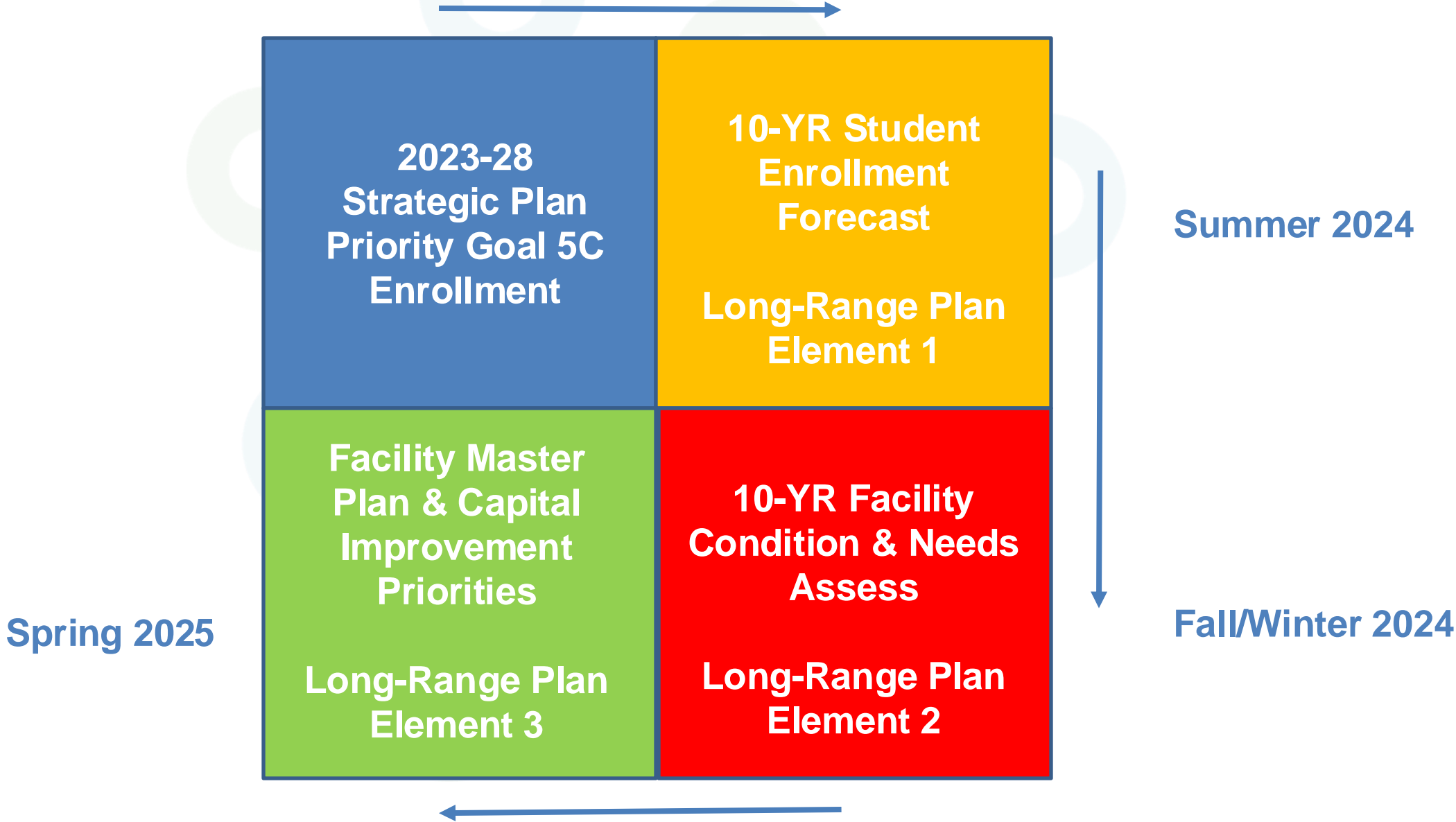
Topics to Cover

- **Interconnected: DPS Enrollment & School Facilities**
- **Past, Present & Future (10-YR Enrollment Forecast)**
- **Growth Management for NC Public Schools**
- **Intergovernmental Collaboration: DPS, County, City**
- **Q & A**



INTERCONNECTED: DPS ENROLLMENT & FACILITIES

Long-Range Planning: Knowledge to Action



Planning for Growth in Public Schools



$$\text{Utilization} = \frac{\text{Student Enrollment}}{\text{School Facility Capacity}}$$

[or]

$$\text{DPS} = \frac{\text{Developments Approved by City}}{\text{K-12 Seats (Capacity) Durham County}}$$



PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Annual and Long-Range Enrollment

1. Annual Student Enrollment Projections

Q: How many students will each school in DPS have next year?

- > Used for:
 - > Allotments and near-term decisions about facility utilization
 - > Strategic plans to increase student enrollment looking at School / Grade Cohort Retention Data

2. Long-Range (10-Year) Enrollment Forecasts

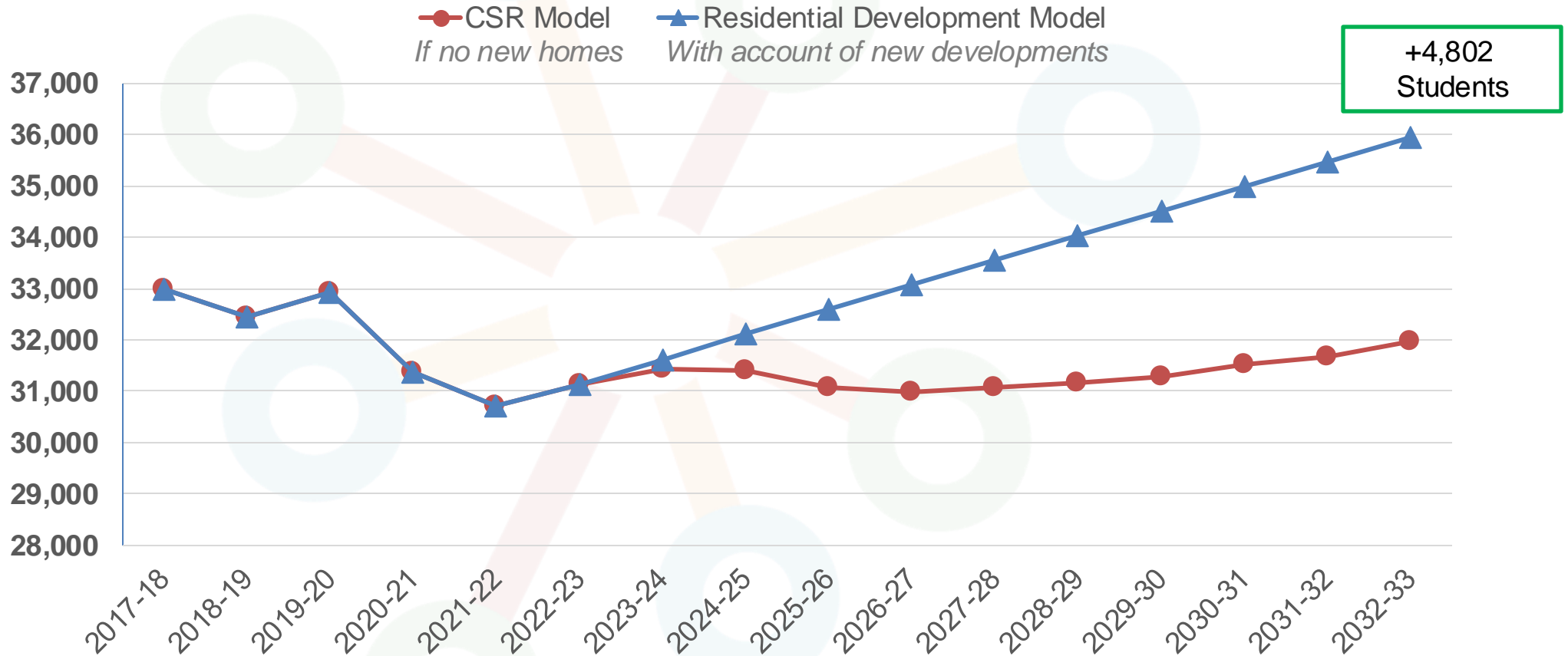
Q: How many students will DPS have in 10 years?

- > Used for:
 - > Long-Range Facility Plan
 - > Capital Improvement Plan / Bond Referendums
 - > Comprehensive Student Assignment Plan Updates





DPS 10-Year Enrollment Forecast



Last Revision: July 2023 based on residential development data provided by Durham City/County Planning and historic student generation rates by geography and housing type

Elementary Utilization by Region (SGR Forecast)

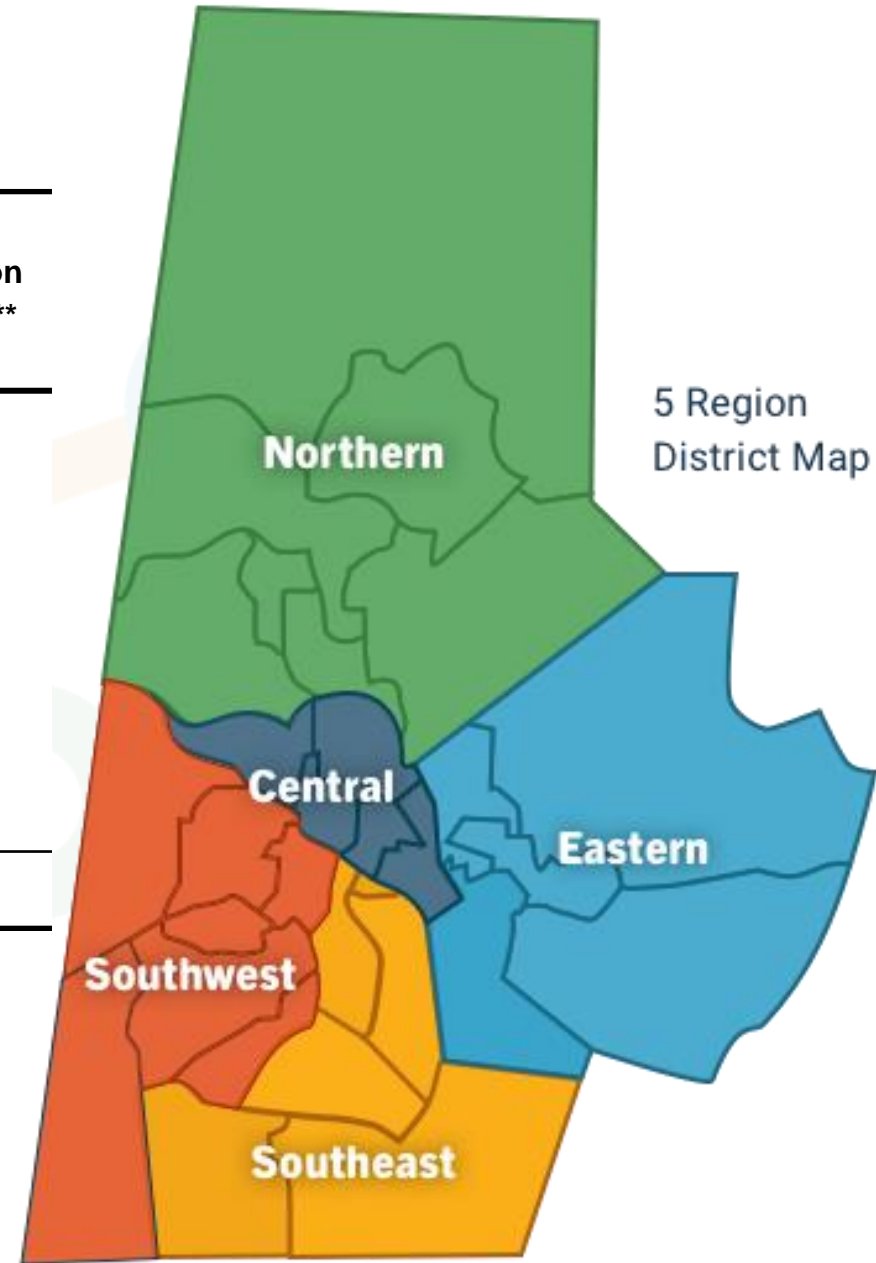


Region	23-24 Total Students*	Additional forecasted by 2033-34 (SGR Forecast)	%	K-5 Capacity w/ PreK	Utilization 2023-24	Utilization 2033-34**
Central	2,526	330	13%	2,126	114%	129%
East	2,206	831	38%	2,926	73%	101%
North	3,408	317	9%	3,592	93%	101%
Southeast	2,549	213	8%	2,944	84%	91%
Southwest	3,500	537	15%	3,894	88%	101%
DPS Wide				438		
Total	14,189	2,228	16%	15,920	89%	103%

*Enrollment data from PowerSchool Day 120 data (March 2024). Enrollment data reflects all students residing in region regardless of where the student attends school.

**Utilization includes districtwide seats (WG Pearson ES) divided evenly between 5 regions.

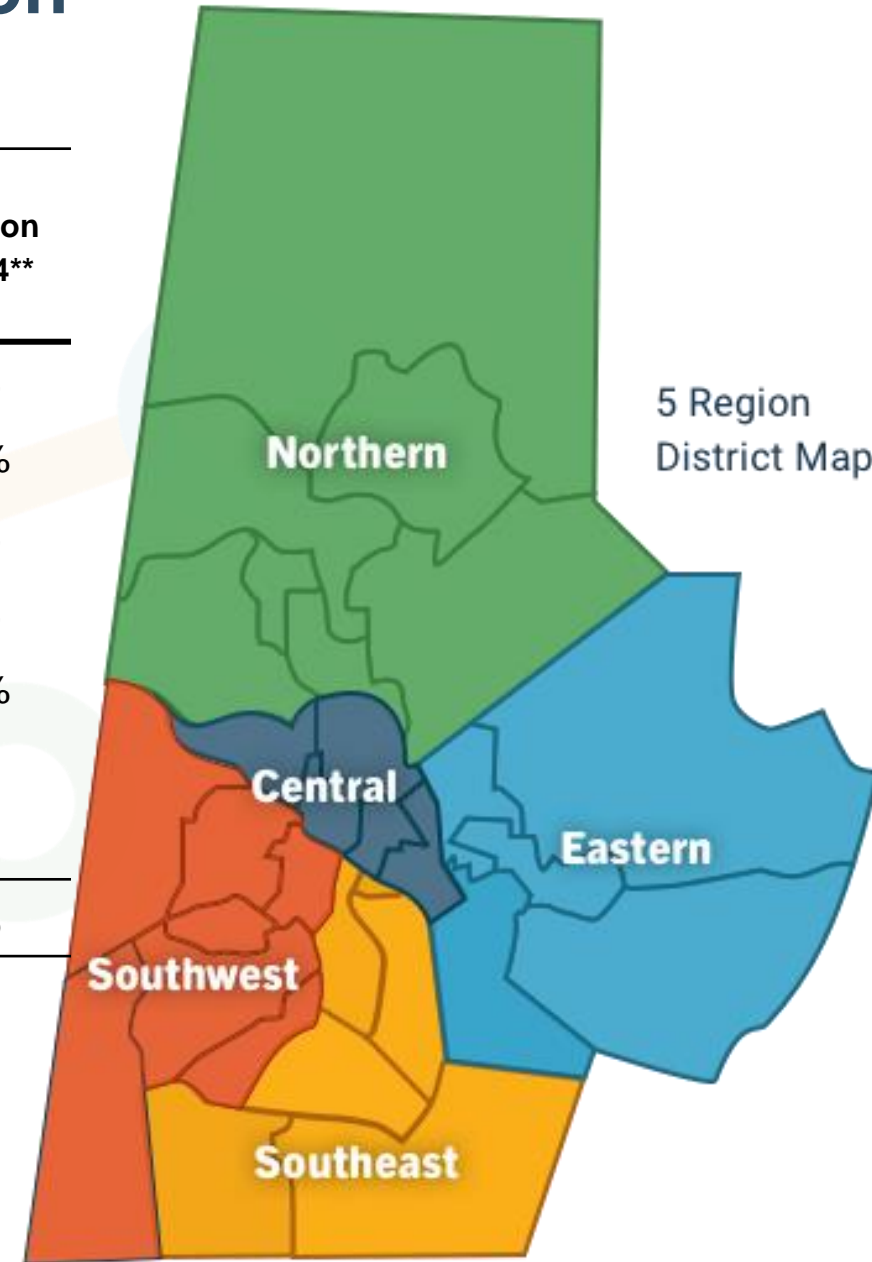
Capacity for specialty schools including Ignite!, Holton PLC, Lakeview School, and Hospital School has not been factored in to district capacity.



Middle Schools Utilization by Region (SGR Forecast)



Region	23-24 Total Students*	Additional forecasted by 2033-34 (SGR Forecast)	%	6-8 Capacity	Utilization 2023-24	Utilization 2033-34**
Central	1,106	132	12%	872	86%	96%
East	1,122	332	30%	810	91%	119%
North	1,595	127	8%	1,494	83%	90%
Southeast	1,177	85	7%	1,320	68%	73%
Southwest	1,655	215	13%	1,200	102%	116%
DPS Wide				709		
Regional				1,375		
Total	6,655	891	13%	7,780	86%	97%



*Enrollment data from PowerSchool Day 120 data (March 2024). Enrollment data reflects all students residing in region regardless of where the student attends school.

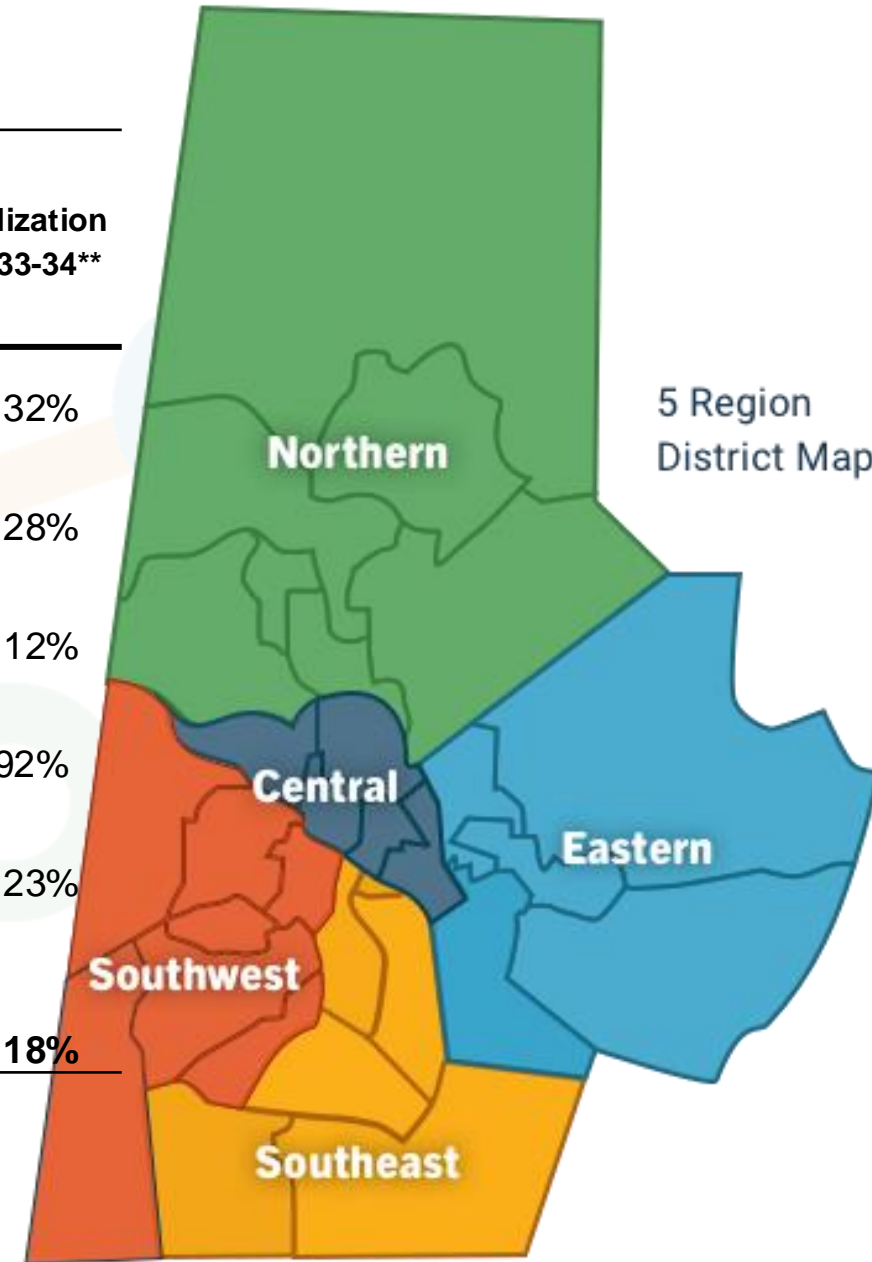
**Utilization includes districtwide (709 DSA seats) and regional seats (Rogers-Herr MS & SCS) divided evenly between 5 regions.

Capacity for specialty schools including Ignite!, Holton PLC, Lakeview School, and Hospital School has not been factored in to district capacity.

High School Utilization by Region (SGR Forecast)



Region***	23-24 Total Students*	Additional forecasted by 2033-34 (SGR Forecast)	%	Capacity	Utilization 2023-24	Utilization 2033-34**
Central (Riverside)	2,404	198	8%	1,540	122%	132%
East (Southern)	2,012	499	25%	1,540	102%	128%
North (Northern)	2,080	190	9%	1,600	103%	112%
Southeast (Hillside)	1,685	128	8%	1,535	86%	92%
Southwest (Jordan)	2,435	322	13%	1,810	109%	123%
Districtwide				2,141		
Total	10,616	1,337	13%	10,166	104%	118%



*Enrollment data from PowerSchool Day 120 data (March 2024). Enrollment data reflects all students residing in region regardless of where the student attends school.

**Utilization includes districtwide seats (DSA & early colleges) divided evenly between 5 regions.

***Using HS feeder patterns instead of regions.

Capacity for specialty schools including Ignite!, Holton PLC, Lakeview School, and Hospital School has not been factored in to district capacity.



GROWTH MANAGEMENT FOR NC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Landscape of Growth Management for DPS

Legal Review & Case Summary

Lovelady, Adam (2024). [UNC School of Government Review - Schools & Development Regulations in North Carolina](#)



NC legal limitations to growth management strategies

1. **Educational Impact Fees:** Legal precedent prohibits DPS from levying and / or collecting developer impact fees
2. **School Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (SAPFO):** No existing interlocal agreement between DPS, City, County
3. **Capping Schools:** No precedent for DPS

Landscape of Growth Management for DPS

Available Growth Management Strategies

School boundary changes and adjustments (2019-2023)

Creekside ES / Parkwood ES (2019)

Githens MS / Brogden MS (2019)

Growing Together Elementary, Middle & High School Comprehensive Plan (2022)

Durham County K-12 Capital Improvement Program

Lyons Farm Elementary School (2022); Northern High School (2023); Murray-Massenburg Elementary School (2024); Six Elementary Renovations (2024 – Future)



Utilization: Balancing Students & Seats

Goal for Planning = Classroom, grade, and school utilization should benchmark 85-100% student-to-seat ratio



$$\text{Utilization} = \frac{\text{Enrolled Students (City/County Plan)}}{\text{Permanent Seats (County Finance)}} \quad \text{(DPS School Planning)}$$

NC Factors

1. HB90 K-3 Class Size Laws
2. NC Public Education Impact Fee Legal Precedent (Durham, 2006)
3. NC School Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance



Updates to School Planning: 2020 – 2024

Clear Data and Integration

1. Inventory DPS PreK-12 Classroom Database (2,200+)
2. Development of Neighborhood Planning Units (750+)

Growth Management

Internal Strategies & Tactics

1. Established 5 DPS regions for access, equity, and growth
2. Boundaries to reflect residential growth & overcrowding

External Partnerships

1. Update to the 2023 Durham Comprehensive Plan and ongoing procedures with Durham City / County Planning



NEXT STEPS & RECOMMENDATIONS



Next Steps: Durham Public Schools

Student Enrollment Planning

1. 2023-28 DPS Strategic Plan – Student Enrollment (Priority Goal 5C = 35,000 K-12 Students)
2. Annual Updates to 10-Year Student Enrollment Forecast

Facility Master Planning & CIP

1. DPS Learning Environment Guidelines & Standards, Facility Conditions, and Long-Range Facility Master Plan
2. Updates to DPS & Durham County Capital Improvement Plan identifying priorities and funding needs by year
3. Ongoing prioritization and tension between deferred maintenance and building new schools for capacity



Recommendations: Durham City/County

Durham Comprehensive Plan

1. Procedures for development review given school and regional enrollment and capacities
2. Community awareness of student enrollment increases and need for additional seats and schools by region of Durham

Intergovernmental Growth & Education Taskforce

1. DPS / County / City Taskforce with Staff Representation
2. Taskforce produces annual report of 10-year DPS enrollment forecast, residential growth, and capacities of K-12 facilities reflecting PreK classroom allocations



DISCUSSION