

A CONSULTANT STUDY UPDATE
OF THE
NORTH LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

A CONSULTANT STUDY UPDATE
OF THE
NORTH LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

RECEIVED
AUG 1 1983
NLCS

Board of School Trustees

Thomas L. Sowders
Robert Adamson
Jeffrey J. Lytton
Ronald Alesia
James H. Anderson
David Nicholson
Wendell Nikirk

Superintendent

Dr. Phillip W. Schoffstall

by
Project Staff

Dean F. Berkley
C. William Day
William R. Wilkerson

School of Education
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

June, 1983

FOREWORD

In the Spring of 1983, the Board of School Trustees requested the consultant team from Indiana University to update the study they had completed in 1980. The charge to the team was to review the 1980 study and update the information especially noting any changes during the past three years.

The consultant team is most appreciative of the valuable assistance furnished by members of the school staff, the architectural firms of Odle, Burke, Yearwood & Johnson, James Associates, and the LOM Corporation. Data utilized from these sources and from our evaluations were utilized with only one goal in mind - how to provide the best educational opportunities for the pupils of the North Lawrence Community Schools. It is hoped that the observations and recommendations included in this update will significantly assist school officials in reaching that goal.

D.F.B.
C.W.D
W.R.W

INDEX

ENROLLMENT ANALYSIS	1
GRADE ORGANIZATION	4
FACILITIES ANALYSIS	5
FINANCIAL CAPABILITY	8

ENROLLMENT ANALYSIS

Enrollment projections are fraught with considerable speculation and any number of factors can impact on the numbers attending public schools. The following are some which need to be considered:

1. A change in the entering age for public schools.
2. The progression of pupils from one grade level to the next.
3. A shift in the percentages attending public schools as contrasted to those attending private/parochial schools.
4. The attraction of good school programs housed in adequate facilities for incoming families.

The 1980 study covered the enrollment history from 1975-76 through 1979-80. The continuation factors that were computed for that five year period revealed a range from 1.08 to .84 with the averaged continuation factor for K-12 being .98. Table 1 reveals the K-12 enrollment for the past three years. New continuation factors have been computed for the period of 1978-79 through 1982-83. These figures reveal a range of 1.04 to .91. This would indicate that greater stability has been brought to the grade by grade enrollments.

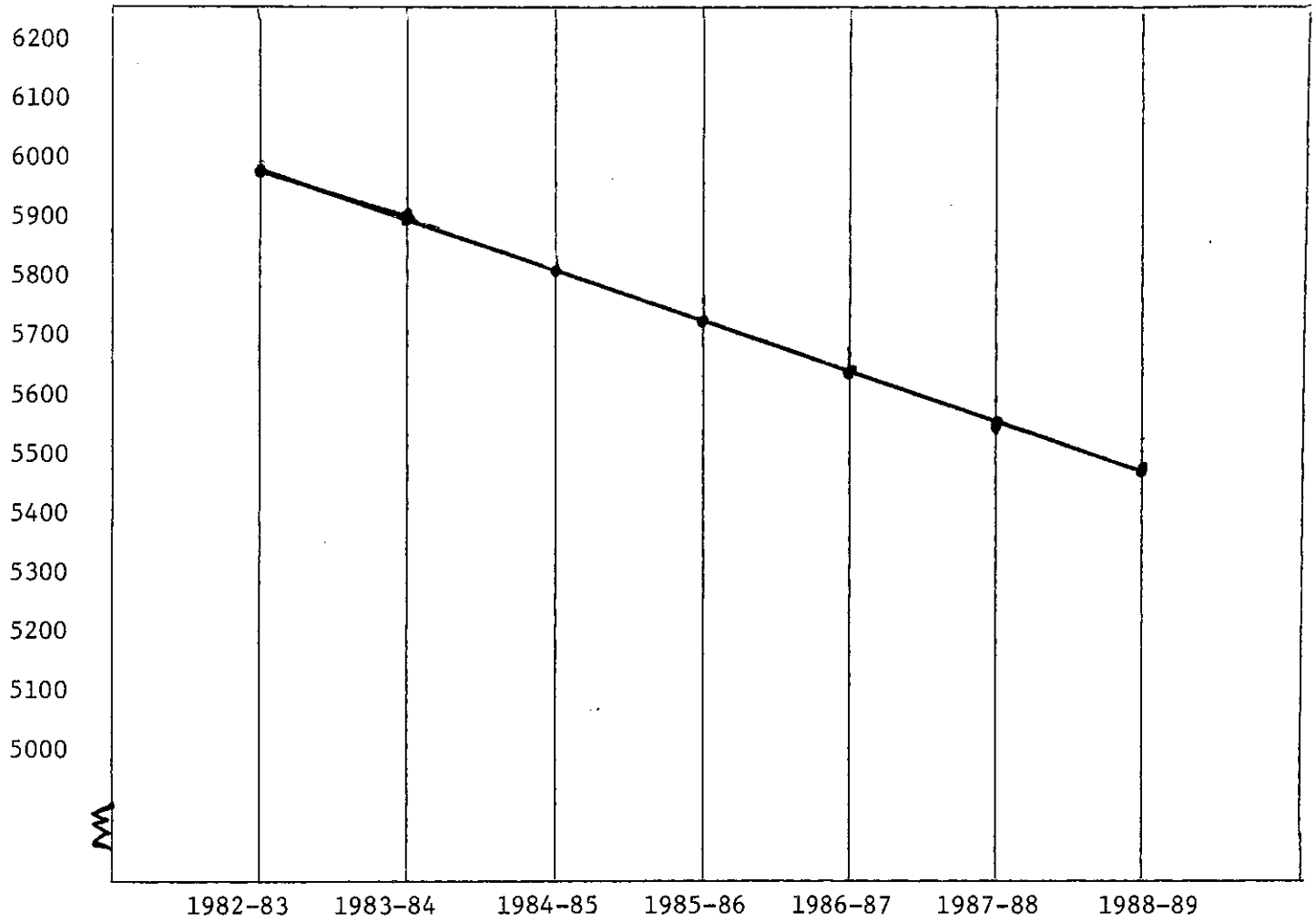
In reviewing the various methods for computing future enrollments, one based on the continuation factor for the past eight years appears to be the best. The average continuation factor for grades K-12, over the past eight years is .98, indicating some persistent loss during that period.

Based on the projected range for total K-12 enrollments in the 1980 study it would appear that these projections are very close. Therefore, utilizing a continuation factor of approximately .98, projected enrollments for the next five years are illustrated in Chart 1.

TABLE 1. ENROLLMENT FOR THE NORTH LAWRENCE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, 1980-81
THROUGH 1982-83

	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
K	394	450	433
1	481	413	456
2	478	449	366
3	458	466	417
4	493	443	447
5	456	475	426
6	380	476	464
7	459	432	454
8	454	445	419
9	487	441	436
10	477	452	414
11	438	480	400
12	421	428	411
K-12 Total	5,876	5,850	5,543
Spe. Ed/	290	253	335
Voc. Ed.	116	134	110
Grand Total	6,282	6,237	5,988

CHART 1. PROJECTED ENROLLMENTS FOR TOTAL K-12 1983-84 THROUGH 1988-89



GRADE ORGANIZATION

Basically the North Lawrence Community Schools are structured in a K-6, 7-8, 9-12 organizational pattern containing 14 schools. The grade distribution in these schools is as follows: seven buildings house grades K through six, one building contains K through three, and one building contains grades four through six. One building contains grades K through eight while one building contains only special education students. There are two buildings which house seventh and eighth graders and one high school facility that contains all ninth through twelve graders in the district. All vocational students are housed in a single facility on the high school site. Of the 14 buildings used for K through 12, eight of them contain portions of the special education program.

In the 1980 study it was recommended that a vertical organization for servicing students be incorporated to include kindergarten-grade 5; grades 6-8; and grades 9-12 for the North Lawrence Community Schools. It has been observed during the past three years through visits and talks with patrons, board members and staff of this school corporation that the previously recommended organizational pattern is not a viable solution.

FACILITIES ANALYSIS

One of the few constants of contemporary society is change. Because education is an integral part of the society as a whole, education must change in response to the expectations and needs of that society. School boards, administrators, and educators strive to educate children to meet the challenges of today, to predict the future needs of society, and to produce young men and women able to cope with and direct societal changes.

The quality of educational programs is profoundly affected by the buildings which house those programs. School buildings must change to keep up with present educational programs and those of tomorrow as well. An obvious example of this proposition is the growing concern for energy conservation in public facilities.

Every school facility must undergo a thorough examination of those features which affect the health and safety of its occupants. Any building that endangers the well-being of those using it should have those deficiencies corrected as soon as possible.

Since our study was completed in 1980 Englewood Elementary has been converted into a special education center. Tunnelton Elementary School has been closed and the students redistricted. The major addition to Dollens Elementary has also been completed. Historically most building programs have been undertaken, in this country, for either educational, financial or political reasons and the Bedford community isn't any different. Since there are many deficiencies with most of the educational facilities therefore the following recommendations are being made:

Lincoln Elementary - Plan and construct an addition that would consist of new art and music rooms, library, physical education and locker area and five classrooms. The existing gymnasium would then be used as the cafeteria. There are also some general renovation items that should be corrected at this time. When this work is completed then serious consideration should be given to the closing of Stalker Elementary. Cost estimated at \$2,000,000.00.

Parkview Primary - Plan and construct an addition that would include new art and music rooms, physical education area and library. Use the present multi-purpose area for a cafeteria. A general refurbishing of the remainder of the building would also be in order. Cost estimate approximately \$2,000,000.00.

Parkview Intermediate - A modest refurbishing of this facility would provide many additional years service. Such things should include loose equipment, window replacement, kitchen remodeling, some reroofing, acoustical ceilings and lights. An addition of six classrooms should be included. Total cost estimate approximately \$1,000,000.00.

Dollens Elementary - Plans and specifications should be prepared for an addition that would consist of ten new classrooms, library and support areas, physical education complex, industrial arts, home economics, art, music, science, administrative area, and dining facilities. Once this addition is completed the Oolitic Junior High should be closed. Cost estimated at \$2,400,000.00.

Springville Elementary - A multipurpose room should be added to this educational facility. Cost estimated at \$450,000.00.

Fayetteville Elementary - If this building is to continue as an elementary school then new windows, new exterior doors and new ceilings should be installed. Cost estimated at \$125,000.00.

Needmore Elementary - A new facility for approximately 300 students should be constructed to replace the existing building. Cost estimated at \$2,300,000.00.

Bedford Junior High - Since this complex will likely continue as an attendance center some minor work should be done in the areas of code violations, windows, doors, stairwells, mechanical system, plumbing and accessibility. Cost estimated at \$600,000.00.

North Lawrence High School - Additional facilities are needed for the physical educational, athletic programs as well as space for student lockers. Cost estimated at \$3,000,000.00

These recommendations do not imply that work isn't needed at Shawswick and Heltonville, but if the above could be implemented the educational opportunities would surely be enhanced.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

The North Lawrence School Corporation has established a CBF rate of \$1.10. The proceeds of this tax should be sufficient to finance the necessary remodeling of existing facilities. The new construction will be financed by a combination of CBF, a possible Common School Loan, and a School Building Corporation. It is the intent of the Board to service the debt, after the projects are occupied, within the \$1.10 tax rate for the CBF, either by making lease-rental payments from CBF or by raising the Debt Service rate and dropping most of the CBF rate.