



WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Demographic and Facility Study

Ross Haber, Ed. D

August 2022

	2016-17	2021-22	Difference	Percent	2026-27	Diff	Percent
				Difference			
District	3,363	3,051	-312	-9.28%	2796	-255	-8.36%
Apshawa	252	183	-69	-27.38%	171	-12	-6.56%
Maple Road	239	184	-55	-23.01%	177	-7	-3.80%
Marshall Hill	263	244	-19	-7.22%	268	24	9.84%
Paradise Knoll	282	194	-88	-31.21%	174	-20	-10.31%
Upper Greenwood Lake	256	184	-72	-28.13%	181	-3	-1.63%
Westbrook	340	232	-108	-31.76%	228	-4	-1.72%
Macopin MS	514	752	238	46.30%	582	-170	-22.61%
West Milford HS	1074	901	-173	-16.11%	837	-64	-7.10%
Self-contained Sp Ed	121	161	40	33.06%	159	-2	-1.24%
Prekindergarten	22	16	-6	-27.27%	19	3	18.75%

West Milford Township			
	2015	2020	Change
Population	26,610	26,355	-255
Median Age	44	45.9	1.9
Median Income	\$98,556.00	\$103,425.00	\$4,869.00
Mean Income	\$108,807.00	\$123,256.00	\$14,449.00
Race			Change
White	23,655	22,496	-1159
Black	181	263	82
Asian	370	527	157
Hispanic	2,003	2,228	225
Native Am/Alaskan	70	261	191
Hawaiian/Pl	26	48	22
Multi-racial	121	457	336
Other	184	75	-109

West Milford

Year	Births		K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	ES	MS	HS	Sub	Total	PK	Total
																				K-12	SC	
2016-17	228	0.882	201	210	223	259	239	248	252	246	268	242	291	278	263	1632	514	1074	3220	121	22	3363
				1.045	1.019	1.027	0.992	0.987	1.012	1.008	0.996	0.881	1.008	1.000	0.986							
2017-18	216	0.917	198	210	214	229	257	236	251	254	245	236	244	291	274	1595	499	1045	3139	141	27	3307
				1.015	1.010	1.051	1.000	0.996	1.013	1.032	1.016	0.902	1.021	1.016	1.014							
2018-19	226	0.929	210	201	212	225	229	256	239	259	258	221	241	248	295	1572	517	1005	3094	151	24	3269
				0.971	0.980	1.024	0.987	1.013	1.012	1.046	0.969	0.891	1.041	0.992	0.984							
2019-20	183	0.913	167	204	197	217	222	232	259	250	251	230	230	239	244	1498	501	943	2942	169	19	3130
				1.072	1.005	0.939	1.000	0.995	0.996	1.008	0.980	0.873	1.000	1.004	0.987							
2020-21	228	0.741	169	179	205	185	217	221	231	261	245	219	230	231	236	1176	737	916	2829	152	18	2999
				1.195	1.034	1.000	1.054	1.046	1.032	1.104	1.031	0.853	1.032	0.991	1.030							
2021-22	200	1.035	207	202	185	205	195	227	228	255	269	209	226	228	238	1221	752	901	2874	161	16	3051
Av		0.903		1.060	1.010	1.008	1.007	1.007	1.013	1.040	0.998	0.880	1.020	1.001	1.000							
Year			K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	ES	MS	HS	Sub	Total	PK	Total
																				K-12	SC	
2022-23	208		188	219	204	186	206	196	230	237	254	237	213	226	228	1199	721	904	2824	155	21	3000
2023-24	187		169	199	221	206	187	207	199	239	237	224	242	213	226	1189	675	905	2769	158	20	2947
2024-25	184		166	179	201	223	207	188	210	207	239	209	228	242	213	1164	656	892	2712	159	19	2890
2025-26	195		176	176	181	203	225	208	190	218	207	210	213	228	242	1169	615	893	2677	157	19	2853
2026-27	195		176	187	178	182	204	227	211	198	218	182	214	213	228	1154	627	837	2618	159	19	2796

School	Capacity	Max Projected Enrollment	Total Classrooms Gen and Special Ed	Maximum Undesignated
Apshawa	367	188	24	1
Maple Road	394	247	28	1
Marshall Hill	428	284	26	2
Paradise Knoll	370	174	19	2
Upper Greenwood Lake	489	198	22	4
Westbook	550	228	23	1
Total	2598	1319		

Conclusion

The following points summarize our findings:

- Each of the elementary schools are below capacity. We took the capacity from the district practices indicated in the long-range facility plan.
- The district has low average class sizes which is educationally beneficial, although this may not be the most efficient use of resources (both from a facility and staffing point of view).
- The majority of the schools have two classes per grade level, there are some schools with three on a few grade levels, and there are some grade levels showing only one section on a grade level.
- The enrollment in the district is continuing to decline; because of the Highlands Act, it does not appear that there will be any significant new housing or housing developments built in West Milford in the foreseeable future. It also does not appear that sales of existing housing have offset the enrollment decline.
- It is projected that at least three (3) of the elementary schools will fall below 200 students by the 2026-27 school year.

Moving Forward

- Given the ongoing enrollment decline, it would be prudent for the board to consider repurposing one of the elementary schools and having five (5) K-5 schools beginning in September 2023.
- After reviewing the floor plans and the structure of each school building, it would be feasible to consider repurposing the Westbrook Elementary School. This building could serve several purposes including, but not limited to, expansion of special needs programs, location of the offices of program directors, the location of the Child Study Team.
- In considering the reduction to five (5) elementary schools, it will be necessary to examine the attendance zones and student locations to determine the least disruptive means of relocating students to a neighboring elementary school.
- Based upon proposed amended attendance zones, an analysis as to the impact of transportation can be assessed.