

## **INTRODUCTION**

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As part of receiving State reimbursement for a PlanCon project, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires that School Districts complete a feasibility study of all facilities owned by the School District. The study must provide an appraisal of the ability of existing schools to meet current and planned educational programs and space needs including an analysis of projected enrollment.

The following information is an analysis of the Tuscarora School District's existing facilities. This Feasibility Study, completed by EI Associates, as commissioned by the Board of School Directors, is intended to be used as a tool in evaluating the District's current and future facility needs and expenditures.

The report has been compiled using data gathered at recent meetings with District administrators. Visits to the buildings have been conducted to evaluate their compliance with Department of Education standards; International Building Codes; Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry standards; National Plumbing and Electrical Codes; and the American Disability Act Accessibility Standards. The Study began with a tour of each existing building to evaluate its size, age, condition, suitability as an educational facility and potential for upgrading or expansion. Following the tour, discussions took place with the District administrators to confirm current and projected building usage and school programs, also to explore possible future changes in program and developments that might affect the study.

As part of this evaluation, existing educational trends, future technologies, and future learning strategies/activities must be considered as criteria to judge a facility and to determine its long-range usefulness as a school.

An analysis of Tuscarora School District's projected enrollment; included are population projection charts, 10 years into the future, for grade groupings K – 5, 6 – 8, 9 – 12, and K – 12.

An overview of Tuscarora School District's educational program that highlights special facility needs; included are curriculums that will require special design features.

An overview of the Tuscarora School District that considers such factors as geography, population, and wealth. Distinguishing characteristics that will have an impact on Tuscarora School District's facilities such as geographically separate population centers.

An analysis of each building's capacity as it relates to the educational program.

An analysis of construction options, including cost estimates, and a summary depicting buildings, options, and costs.

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

### District Facts

**School Buildings** - The Elementary School program (currently configured with grades K-5) consists of the Mercersburg Elementary School, Montgomery Elementary School, Mountain View Elementary School, and St. Thomas Elementary School. The Middle School program (6-8) consists of the James Buchanan Middle School and the High School program (9-12) consists of the James Buchanan High School. **Table 1** profiles the the School District Buildings.

<b>TABLE 1 Tuscarora School District Buildings</b>	<b>Grade Levels</b>	<b>2007 Student Enrollment</b>	<b>Site Size Acres</b>	<b>Construction / Renovation Dates</b>
Mercersburg Elementary	K-5	337	6.5	1980
Montgomery Elementary	K-5	268	10	1957/58; 2006 A&A
Mountain View Elementary	K-5	264	11.88	1961; 2004 A&A
St. Thomas Elementary	K-5	401	22	1958; 1965 A; 1995 A
James Buchanan Middle School	6-8	627	45	1953; 1960 A; 2005 A&A
James Buchanan High School	9-12	844	24	1970
District Administration Building	N/A	N/A	2.5	1940; 1964 A&A;1980 A&A

**School Board of Directors** - The Board of School Directors is made up of nine-members. The nine directors are elected from the District's residents as a whole. Elections are held in alternate years in accordance with law. Director's terms last four years. The superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the School District, with overall responsibility for all aspects of operations, including education, finance and facility planning. The business administrator is responsible for budget and financial operations. Both of these officials are selected by the Board of School Directors.

**The Population of the School District**, based on the 2000 census, is profiled on **Table 2**.

<b>TABLE 2 Population</b>	<b>Number of Residents</b>	<b>Percentage of Residents</b>
0 to 4 Pre-school children	1,049	6%
5 to 17 School age children	3,183	19%
18 to 64 Adults	10,555	63%
65 and above Adults	2,062	12%
School District Total	16,849	100%

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

### Geography and Population Density

The Tuscarora School District, located in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, is comprised of four Elementary Schools, one Middle School, one High School, and the District Administration Office.

The School District is located in South-Central Pennsylvania and includes the Borough of Mercersburg, also Montgomery, Peters, St. Thomas and Warren Townships. The School District stretches North-South from just South of 40 degrees North latitude to the Maryland border and from East of the 78 degree West longitude line to just West of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Tuscarora, the name of the mountain on the Western boundary, is derived from the Tuscarora Tribe of the Iroquois Confederation. The Tribe came North from the Carolinas about 1713 and settled for a time along the mountains.

The School District is bounded on the North by Metal, Letterkenny and Hamilton Townships; on the South by the Maryland border; on the East by Antrim and Hamilton Townships; and on the West by Fulton County.

Several main arteries traverse the District including U.S. Route 30, PA Route 16, Route 416, and Route 75. The Conococheague Creek, which flows through the District in a winding North-South direction on its way from the Path Valley South to the Potomac River, is an Indian name from the Delaware Tribe meaning clear water.

**Population Centers** - The School District presently operates four Elementary buildings (K-5), one Middle School (6-8), and one High School (9-12) as described in the enrollment tables shown in the study. **Detailed population and household profiles are outlined in the Demographics section of the study.**

The School District serves a population of approximately 17,000 residents within 206 square miles, and is primarily a rural agricultural area. The population density of each municipality is profiled on **Table 3**. The Data is based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

<b>TABLE 3 Population Density</b>	Total Area sq. mi.	Number of Residents	Number of Households	No. of Housing Units	Population Density per sq. mi.	Household Avg. Density per sq. mi.
Mercersburg Borough	1.0	1,540	686	770	1,581.0	790.5
Montgomery Twp.	67.1	4,949	1,782	1,849	73.8	27.6
Peters Twp.	56.0	4,251	1,622	1,718	76.1	30.7
St. Thomas Twp.	51.7	5,775	2,141	2,292	111.7	44.3
Warren Twp.	30.5	334	131	148	10.9	4.8
<b>School District Total</b>	<b>206.3</b>	<b>16,849</b>	<b>6,362</b>	<b>6,777</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>33</b>

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

### Economic Characteristics

The following Tables profile the Economic Characteristics of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

**Table 4** profiles Median Household Income, Median Family Income, Per Capita Income, the percentage of Families and Individuals below the Poverty Level, also the Median House Value.

TABLE 4 Economic Characteristics	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	Per Capita Income	% Below Poverty Level		Median House Value
				Family	Population	
Mercersburg Borough	\$32,619	\$46,042	\$18,934	7.2%	8.6%	\$92,800
Montgomery Twp.	\$47,538	\$50,653	\$18,699	3.7%	7.0%	\$101,400
Peters Twp.	\$41,740	\$46,375	\$18,791	6.9%	8.7%	\$88,900
St. Thomas Twp.	\$39,980	\$43,245	\$17,615	5.7%	6.7%	\$90,400
Warren Twp.	\$39,375	\$52,917	\$19,296	2.0%	2.1%	\$106,800
Average Total	\$40,250	\$47,846	\$18,667	5.1%	6.6%	\$96,060

**Table 5** profiles the Occupation of employed civilian population age 16 years and over.

TABLE 5 Occupation	School District	Mercersburg Borough	Montgomery Twp.	Peters Twp.	St. Thomas Twp.	Warren Twp.
Management, Professional	2,176	254	611	520	739	52
Service Occupations	1,209	107	380	267	420	35
Sales & Office	2,089	203	639	566	653	28
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	152	0	49	33	68	2
Construction, Extraction, Maint.	1,078	54	380	236	386	22
Production, Transp., & Mat'l Moving	2,262	174	744	610	709	25
Total	8,966	792	2,803	2,232	2,975	164

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

### Housing Characteristics

The following Tables profile the Housing Characteristics of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on the 2000 U.S. Census. The household profiles are outlined in the Demographics section of the study.

**Table 6** profiles the Year that Housing Structures were built in the School District and the Municipality where they were built. The data represents Total Housing Units including occupied and unoccupied units.

<b>TABLE 6 Year Structure Built</b>	School District	Mercersburg Borough	Montgomery Twp.	Peters Twp.	St. Thomas Twp.	Warren Twp.
1939 or earlier	1,858	455	415	576	343	69
1940 -1959	1,011	144	179	252	429	7
1960-1969	711	37	153	262	257	2
1970-1979	1,192	33	394	205	530	30
1980-1989	762	55	296	148	242	21
1990-1994	671	37	241	162	226	5
1995-1998	452	9	137	83	207	16
1999 to March 2000	120	0	31	30	58	1
Total	6,777	770	1,846	1,718	2,292	151

**Table 7** profiles the Year that the Householder moved into the Housing Unit in the School District and by each Municipality. The data represents Total Occupied Housing Units.

<b>TABLE 7 Year Moved into Unit</b>	School District	Mercersburg Borough	Montgomery Twp.	Peters Twp.	St. Thomas Twp.	Warren Twp.
1969 or earlier	966	114	229	337	252	34
1970-1979	958	78	275	235	358	12
1980-1989	1,244	86	397	252	487	22
1990-1994	1,002	80	300	238	362	22
1995-1998	1,496	207	434	326	500	29
1999 to March 2000	696	121	147	234	182	12
Total	6,362	686	1,782	1,622	2,141	131

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

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### Population Characteristics

The following Tables profile Population Characteristics of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

**Table 8** profiles the Racial Makeup of each Municipality based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

The racial makeup of the School District in 2000 was 98.2% White, 1.1% African American, 0.1% Native American, 0.2% Asian, 0.0% Pacific Islander, 0.3% Other Races, and 0.5% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 0.9% of the population.

<b>TABLE 8</b> <b>Racial Makeup</b>	White	Black or African American	American Indian & Alaskan Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander	Other Races	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino of any Race
Mercersburg Borough	1,418	100	0	9	0	8	5	21
Montgomery Twp.	4,911	12	6	3	0	8	9	22
Peters Twp.	4,158	38	2	5	0	22	26	56
St. Thomas Twp.	5,657	38	15	16	0	14	35	43
Warren Twp.	328	1	0	0	0	1	4	2
School District Total	16,472	189	23	33	0	53	79	144
School Dist. % Total	98.2%	1.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.9%

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

### Population Characteristics

**Table 9** profiles the General Characteristics of each Municipality based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

For the Total population:           50.5% Male  
   49.5% Female

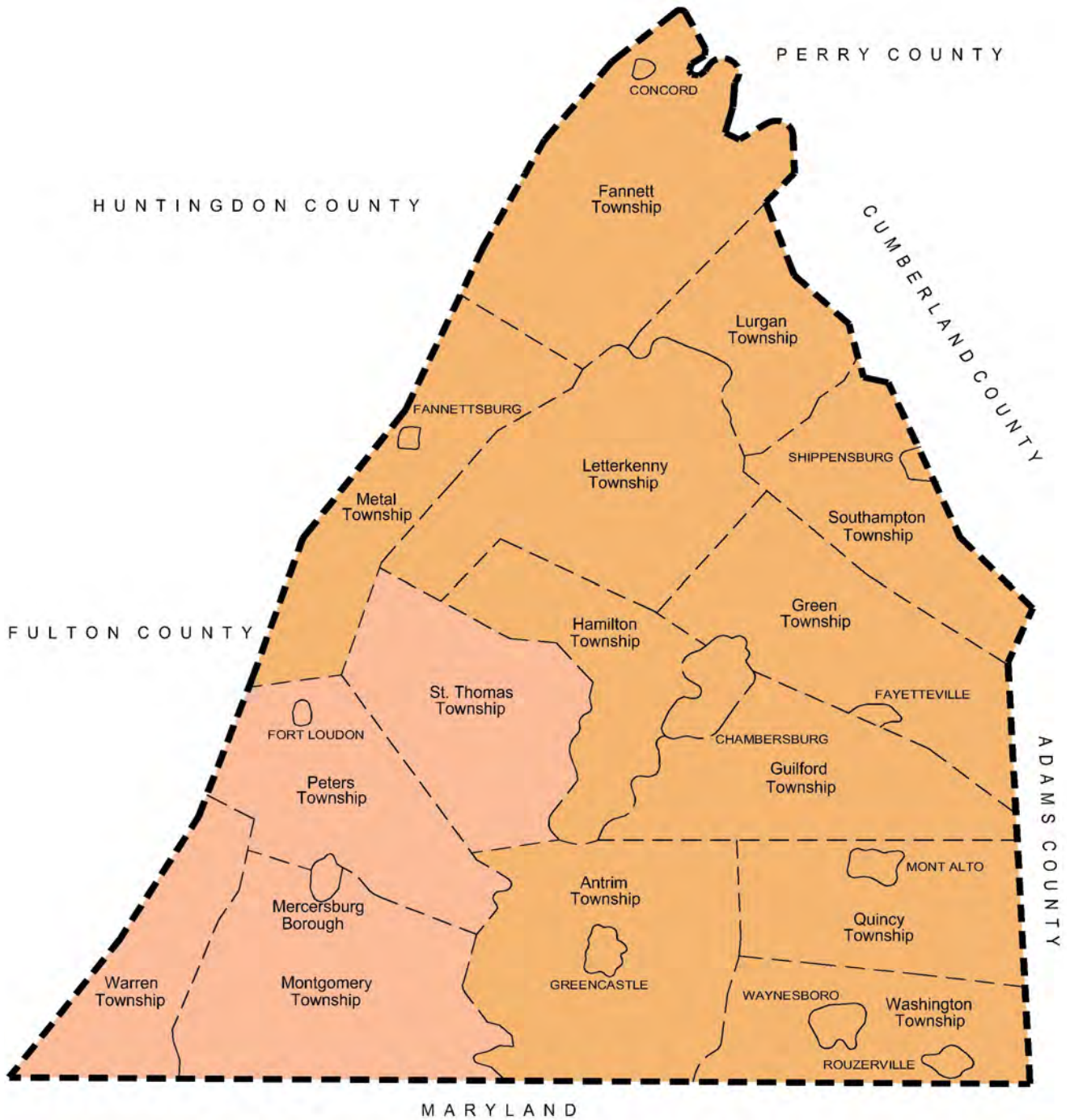
For the population over 25 years of age : 77.3% have a High School Degree or higher and 11.3% have a Bachelor Degree or higher.

For the population over 16 years of age: 70.1% are in the Labor Force; 67.7% commute to work; and the mean travel time to work is 28.5 minutes.

<b>TABLE 9</b>								
<b>General Characteristics</b>	Total Population	Male Population	Female Population	25+ High Sch Degree or Higher	25+ Bachelor Degree or Higher	Popul. 16+ in Labor Force	Popul. 16+ Travel to Work	Mean Travel Time to Work
Mercersburg Borough	1,540	722	818	890	210	815	776	22.9
Montgomery Twp.	4,949	2,590	2,359	2,638	298	2,855	2,791	26.8
Peters Twp.	4,251	2,100	2,151	2,204	316	2,254	2,207	26.2
St. Thomas Twp.	5,775	2,920	2,855	2,880	433	3,102	2,948	26.2
Warren Twp.	334	173	161	180	25	166	162	40.4
School District Total	16,849	8,505	8,344	8,792	1,282	9,192	8,884	28.5
School Dist. % Total	100.0%	50.5%	49.5%	77.3%	11.3%	70.1%	67.7%	

# COUNTY MAP

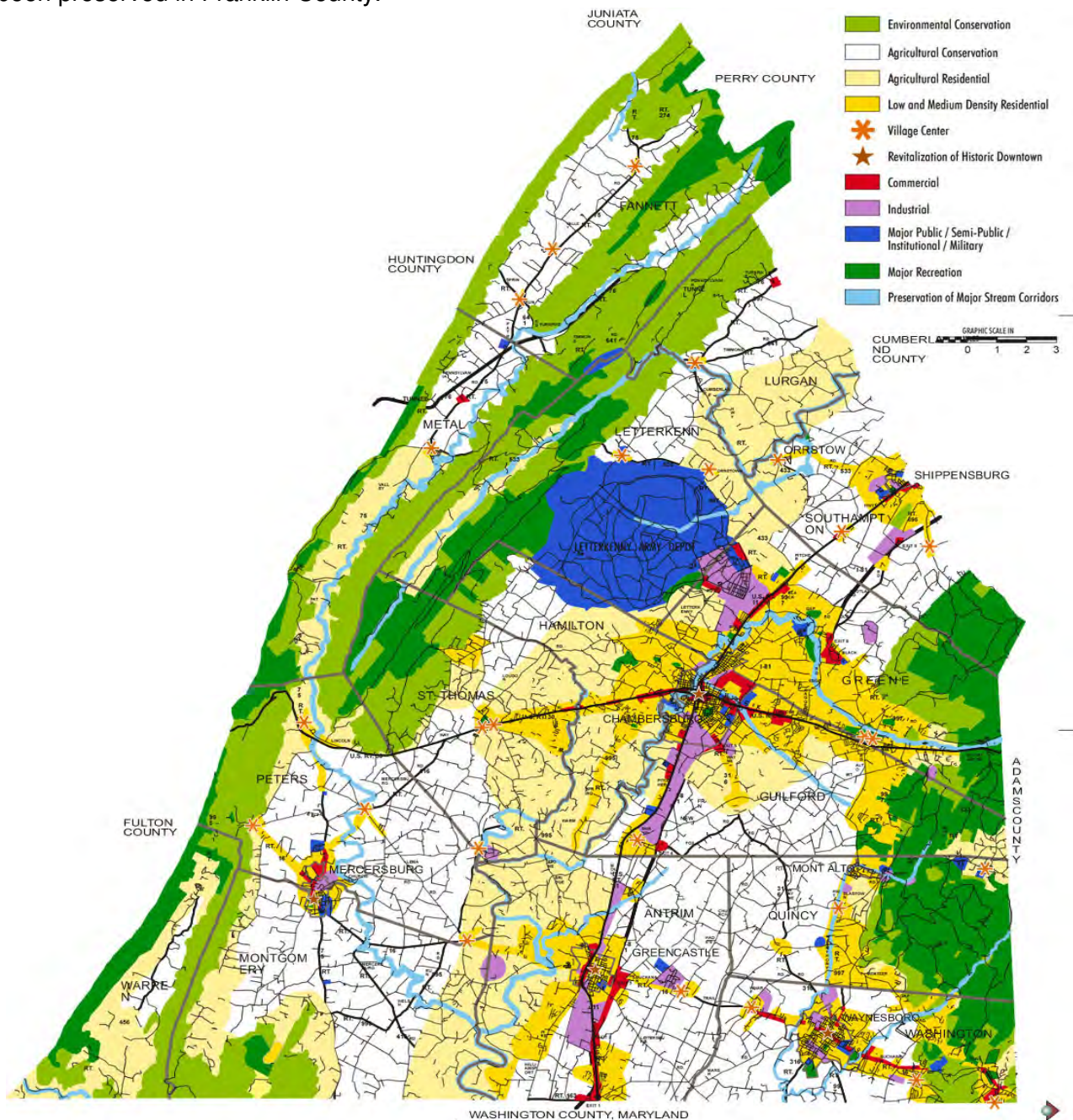
The Tuscarora School District is located in South-Central Pennsylvania in Franklin County and includes Mercersburg Borough, also Montgomery Township, Peters Township, St. Thomas Township and Warren Township.



# COUNTY MAP

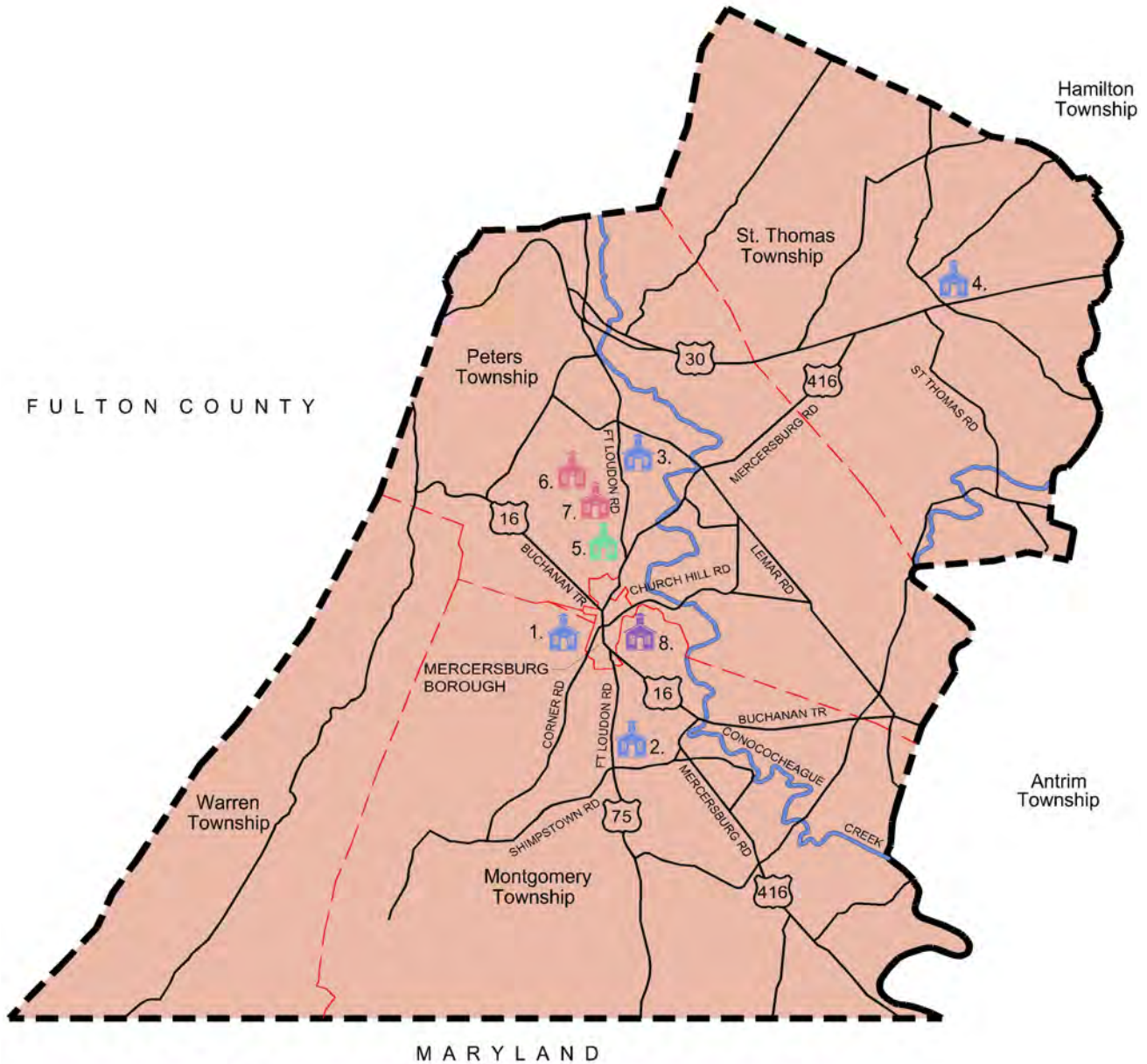
Land use map for Franklin County. Map source is the Franklin County website at [www.co.franklin.pa.us](http://www.co.franklin.pa.us).

According to the 2005 Land Use & Growth Management Report: The majority of Franklin County's total land area is undeveloped, with 93% devoted to agricultural uses and forested land. A significant amount of the development within the County occurs along the major transportation routes of Interstate 81, U.S. Routes 11 and 30, and PA Route 16. Also, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, as of December 2003, 50 farms and 7,033 acres have been preserved in Franklin County.

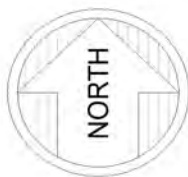


# DISTRICT MAP

The Tuscarora School District is comprised of four Elementary Schools, one Middle School, one High School, and the District Office.



## LEGEND



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1.  MERCERSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL   | 5.  JAMES BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL       |
| 2.  MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL    | 6.  JAMES BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL         |
| 3.  MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | 7.  JAMES BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM |
| 4.  ST. THOMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL    | 8.  DISTRICT ADMIN. BUILDING           |

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

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### **Projected Student Enrollment**

Demographic projections are the basis for making decisions concerning the establishment of facilities, both existing and new. Recognizing that the intent of a school district's physical plan is to house students for the purpose of education, appropriate criteria must be used to determine those projections. Student enrollment projections for this study were supplied by the Department of Education, the School District, and EI Associates. This data also was used to generate future building requirements.

The following charts show the student enrollment projections by grade level, by grade grouping, and by year. Future student enrollment has been computed from known live births and interpolated, where necessary, using the cohort survival methodology. The cohort survival method has a record of reliability in relatively stable districts (what has occurred in the past will, to a large extent, continue to occur). However, changes can occur in birth trends, in-migration patterns, internal policies, economic climate, zoning and land use controls, infrastructure considerations, and interest rates that may affect projections. Thus, influencing factors must be monitored and analyzed every year by the school district. Significant changes, therefore, can be quickly identified and appropriate adjustments made.

However, it is not only the number of students that affects the capability of adequate facilities. The educational program must also be analyzed. Other factors that may affect the ability of the existing facilities to meet the needs of the district are:

1. Half-day versus full-day kindergarten
2. Grade grouping changes
3. Future trends in special education
4. Trends in technology-based education
5. Desired classroom size

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population Information

The following Tables profile the Population of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on the U.S. Census. The Tables illustrate a net increase in the Total Population as well as Adults age 18-64 years and Adults ages 65+ years. The Tables illustrate a net decrease in Pre-school age children 0-4 years and School age children 5-17 years.

**Table 10** profiles data from the 1990 Census and **Table 11** profiles data from the 2000 Census. The Tables profile the Total Population as well as various age groupings including: Pre-school age children 0-4 years; School age children 5-17 years; Adults age 18-64 years; and Adults age 65+ years.

<b>TABLE 10 1990 U.S. Census</b>	Total Population	Age 0-4 Yrs.	Age 5-17 Yrs.	Age 18-64 Yrs.	Age 65+ Yrs.	
Mercersburg Borough	1,640	129	277	975	259	
Montgomery Twp.	4,558	345	983	2,794	436	
Peters Twp.	4,090	262	714	2,589	525	
St. Thomas Twp.	5,861	428	1,177	3,669	587	
Warren Twp.	310	15	52	184	59	
School District Total	16,459	1,179	3,203	10,211	1,866	
School Dist. % Total	100%	7%	19%	62%	11%	

**Table 11** also shows the median age for each municipality. The 2000 Census data indicates that the median age is 37.8.

<b>TABLE 11 2000 U.S. Census</b>	Total Population	Age 0-4 Yrs.	Age 5-17 Yrs.	Age 18-64 Yrs.	Age 65+ Yrs.	Median Age
Mercersburg Borough	1,540	79	285	908	268	38.8
Montgomery Twp.	4,949	305	967	3,194	483	37.2
Peters Twp.	4,251	294	761	2,632	564	37.7
St. Thomas Twp.	5,775	347	1,117	3,615	696	37.4
Warren Twp.	334	24	53	206	51	37.9
School District Total	16,515	1,025	3,130	10,349	2,011	37.8
School Dist. % Total	100%	6%	19%	63%	12%	

## DEMOGRAPHICS

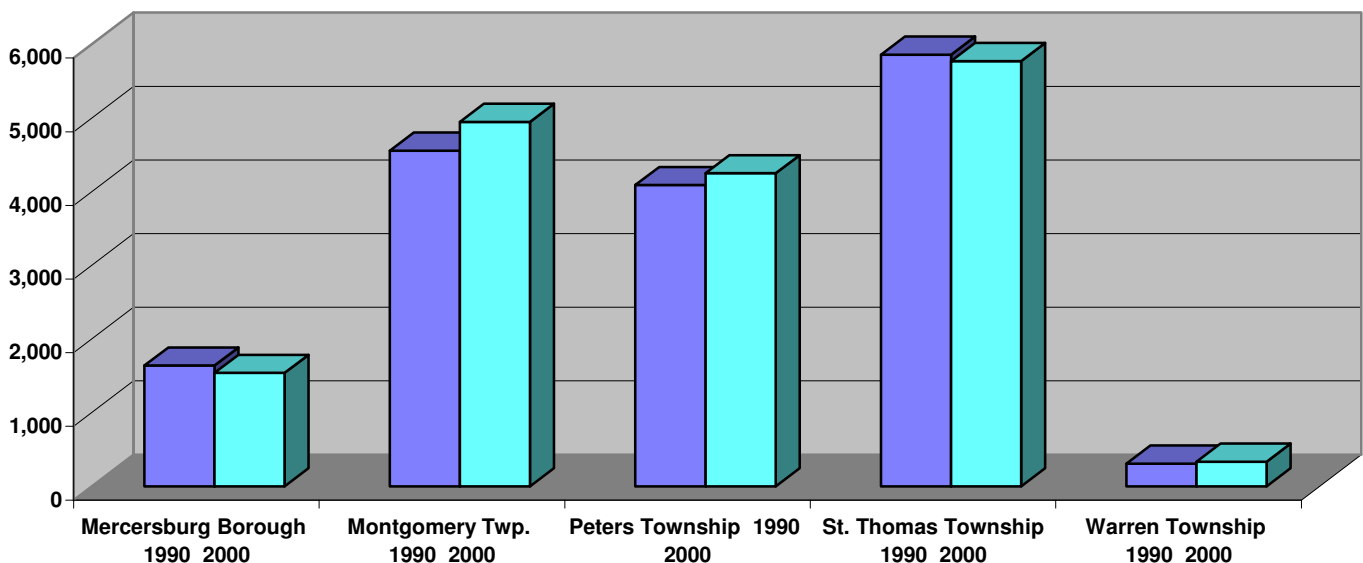
### Population Information

The following Tables profile the various population age sets. The Tables profile the Total Population as well as various age groupings including: Pre-school age children 0-4 years; School age children 5-17 years; Adults age 18-64 years; and Adults age 65+ years. The data shows the difference in population as well as the percentage change from the year 1990 to the year 2000.

**Table 12** profiles the Total population of each municipality. **The overall Total Population shows an increase of 390 persons or 2.37%.** Montgomery Township, Peters Township and Warren Township show an increase in Total Population; while Mercersburg Borough and St. Thomas Township show a decrease in Total Population.

<b>TABLE 12 Total Population</b>	1990 Total Population	2000 Total Population	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	1,640	1,540	-100	-6.10%
Montgomery Township	4,558	4,949	391	8.58%
Peters Township	4,090	4,251	161	3.94%
St. Thomas Township	5,861	5,775	-86	-1.47%
Warren Township	310	334	24	7.74%
School District Total	16,459	16,849	390	2.37%

**TABLE 12 - CHART A**



## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population Information

**Table 13** profiles the Pre-school age children 0-4 years population of each municipality. **The overall 0-4 years population shows a decrease of 130 children or 11.03%.** Peters Township and Warren Township show an increase in 0-4 years population; while Mercersburg Borough, Montgomery Township and St. Thomas Township show a decrease in 0-4 years population.

<b>TABLE 13 Age 0-4 Years</b>	1990 0-4 Years	2000 0-4 Years	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	129	79	-50	-38.76%
Montgomery Township	345	305	-40	-11.59%
Peters Township	262	294	32	12.21%
St. Thomas Township	428	347	-81	-18.93%
Warren Township	15	24	9	60.00%
School District Total	1,179	1,049	-130	-11.03%

**Table 14** profiles the Pre-school age children 5-17 years population of each municipality. **The overall 5-17 years population shows a slight decrease of 20 children or 0.62%.** Mercersburg Borough, Peters Township and Warren Township show an increase in 5-17 years population; while Montgomery Township and St. Thomas Township show a decrease in 5-17 years population.

<b>TABLE 14 Age 5-17 Years</b>	1990 5-17 Years	2000 5-17 Years	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	277	285	8	2.89%
Montgomery Township	983	967	-16	-1.63%
Peters Township	714	761	47	6.58%
St. Thomas Township	1,177	1,117	-60	-5.10%
Warren Township	52	53	1	1.92%
School District Total	3,203	3,183	-20	-0.62%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population Information

**Table 15** profiles the Adults age 18-64 years population of each municipality. **The overall 18-64 years population shows an increase of 344 Adults or 3.37%.** Montgomery Township, Peters Township and Warren Township show an increase in 18-64 years population; while Mercersburg Borough and St. Thomas Township show a decrease in 18-64 years population.

<b>TABLE 15 Age 18-64 Years</b>	1990 18-64 Years	2000 18-64 Years	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	975	908	-67	-6.87%
Montgomery Township	2,794	3,194	400	14.32%
Peters Township	2,589	2,632	43	1.66%
St. Thomas Township	3,669	3,615	-54	-1.47%
Warren Township	184	206	22	11.96%
School District Total	10,211	10,555	344	3.37%

**Table 16** profiles the Adults age 65+ years population of each municipality. **The overall 65+ years population shows an increase of 196 Adults or 10.50%.** Mercersburg Borough, Montgomery Township, Peters Township and St. Thomas Township show an increase in 65+ years population; while Warren Township shows a decrease in 65+ years population.

<b>TABLE 16 Age 65+ Years</b>	1990 65+ Years	2000 65+ Years	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	259	268	9	3.47%
Montgomery Township	436	483	47	10.78%
Peters Township	525	564	39	7.43%
St. Thomas Township	587	696	109	18.57%
Warren Township	59	51	-8	-13.56%
School District Total	1,866	2,062	196	10.50%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Households

The following Tables profile the Household data of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on the U.S. Census. The Tables illustrate a net increase in the Occupied Housing Units as well as Owner Occupied Units, Vacant Housing Units, and Total Housing Units. The Tables illustrate a net decrease in Persons Per Household and Renter Occupied Units.

**Table 17** profiles data from the 1990 Census and **Table 18** profiles data from the 2000 Census. The Tables profile the Occupied Housing Units, Persons Per Household as well as Owner Occupied Units, Renter Occupied Units, Vacant Units and Total Housing Units.

<b>TABLE 17 Housing Units 1990 U.S. Census</b>	Occupied Housing Units	Persons Per Household	Owner Occupied Units	Renter Occupied Units	Vacant Housing Units	Total Housing Units
Mercersburg Borough	681	2.93	359	322	46	727
Montgomery Twp.	1,530	3.25	1,242	288	80	1,610
Peters Twp.	1,532	3.07	1,183	349	96	1,628
St. Thomas Twp.	2,097	3.11	1,756	341	84	2,181
Warren Twp.	118	2.95	96	22	20	138
School District Total	5,958	3.06	4,636	1,322	326	6,284

<b>TABLE 18 Housing Units 2000 U.S. Census</b>	Occupied Housing Units	Persons Per Household	Owner Occupied Units	Renter Occupied Units	Vacant Housing Units	Total Housing Units
Mercersburg Borough	686	2.24	362	324	84	770
Montgomery Twp.	1,782	2.78	1,494	288	67	1,849
Peters Twp.	1,622	2.62	1,291	331	96	1,718
St. Thomas Twp.	2,141	2.68	1,830	311	151	2,292
Warren Twp.	131	2.55	112	19	17	148
School District Total	6,362	2.57	5,089	1,273	415	6,777

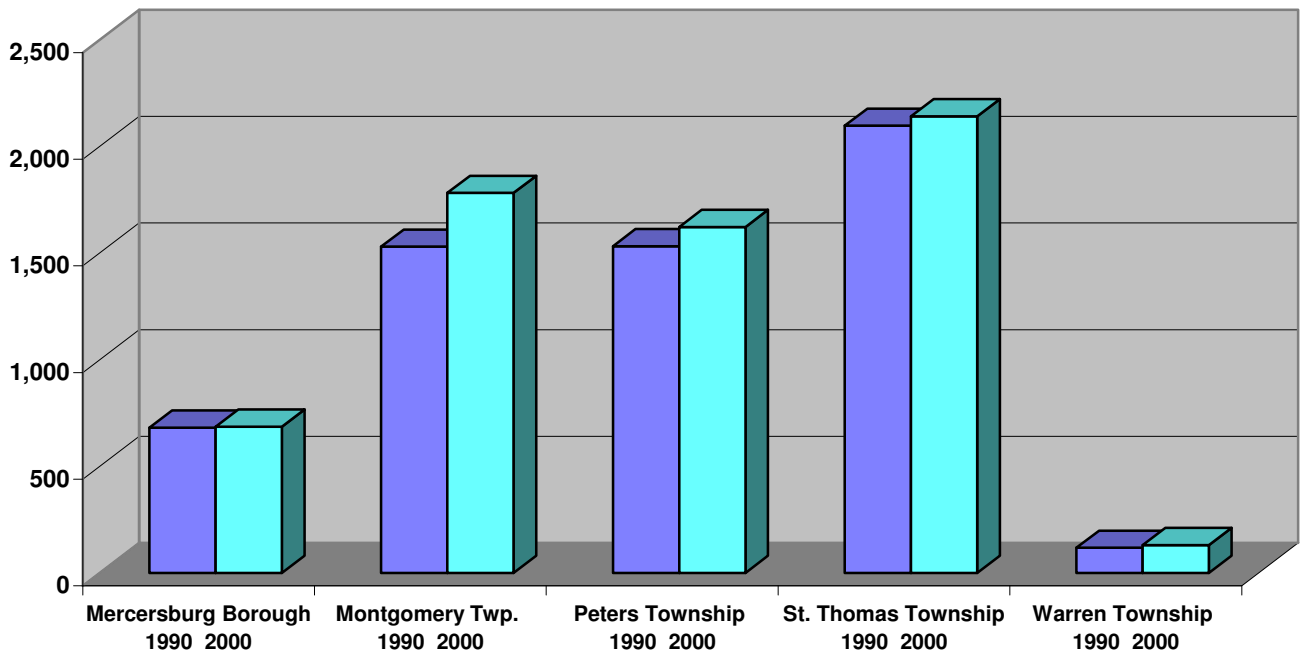
## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Households

**Table 19** profiles the Total Occupied Housing of each municipality. **The overall Occupied Housing shows an increase of 404 units or 6.78%.** Each Township shows an increase of Occupied Housing with Montgomery Township showing the greatest increase.

<b>TABLE 19 Occupied Housing</b>	1990 Occupied Housing	2000 Occupied Housing	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	681	686	5	0.73%
Montgomery Township	1,530	1,782	252	16.47%
Peters Township	1,532	1,622	90	5.87%
St. Thomas Township	2,097	2,141	44	2.10%
Warren Township	118	131	13	11.02%
School District Total	5,958	6,362	404	6.78%

**TABLE 19 - CHART A**



## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Households

**Table 20** profiles the Persons per Household of each municipality. **The overall Persons per Household shows a decrease of 0.49 persons or 15.94%.** Each Township shows a decrease of Persons per Household with Mercersburg Borough showing the greatest decrease.

<b>TABLE 20 Persons per Household</b>	1990 Persons Per Household	2000 Persons Per Household	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	2.93	2.24	-0.69	-23.55%
Montgomery Township	3.25	2.78	-0.47	-14.46%
Peters Township	3.07	2.62	-0.45	-14.66%
St. Thomas Township	3.11	2.68	-0.43	-13.83%
Warren Township	2.95	2.55	-0.40	-13.56%
School District Total	3.06	2.57	-0.49	-15.94%

**Table 21** profiles the Owner Occupied Units of each municipality. **The overall Owner Occupied Units shows an increase of 453 units or 9.77%.** Each Township shows an increase of Owner Occupied Units with Montgomery Township showing the greatest increase.

<b>TABLE 21 Owner Occupied Units</b>	1990 Owner Occupied Units	2000 Owner Occupied Units	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	359	362	3	0.84%
Montgomery Township	1,242	1,494	252	20.29%
Peters Township	1,183	1,291	108	9.13%
St. Thomas Township	1,756	1,830	74	4.21%
Warren Township	96	112	16	16.67%
School District Total	4,636	5,089	453	9.77%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Households

**Table 22** profiles the Renter Occupied Units of each municipality. **The overall Renter Occupied Units shows a decrease of 49 units or 3.71%.** Mercersburg Borough shows a slight increase of Renter Occupied Units, while Montgomery Township shows no change, and Peters Township, St. Thomas Township and Warren Township show a decrease of Renter Occupied Units with St. Thomas Township showing the greatest decrease.

<b>TABLE 22 Renter Occupied Units</b>	1990 Renter Occupied Units	2000 Renter Occupied Units	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	322	324	2	0.62%
Montgomery Township	288	288	0	0.00%
Peters Township	349	331	-18	-5.16%
St. Thomas Township	341	311	-30	-8.80%
Warren Township	22	19	-3	-13.64%
<b>School District Total</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>-49</b>	<b>-3.71%</b>

**Table 23** profiles the Vacant Housing Units of each municipality. **The overall Vacant Housing Units shows an increase of 89 units or 27.30%.** Mercersburg Borough and St. Thomas Township show an increase of Vacant Housing Units, while Peters Township shows no change, and Montgomery Township and Warren Township show a decrease of Renter Occupied Units.

<b>TABLE 23 Vacant Housing Units</b>	1990 Vacant Housing Units	2000 Vacant Housing Units	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	46	84	38	82.61%
Montgomery Township	80	67	-13	-16.25%
Peters Township	96	96	0	0.00%
St. Thomas Township	84	151	67	79.76%
Warren Township	20	17	-3	-15.00%
<b>School District Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>27.30%</b>

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Households

The following Tables profile the Total Housing Units of each municipality. Table 24 profiles the data based on the 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census, while Table 25 profiles data collected since 2000 from the municipalities. The Tables show that an additional 739 houses were built in the District since 2000.

Table 24 profiles the Total Housing Units of each municipality. The overall Total Housing Units shows an increase of 493 units or 7.85%. Each Township shows an increase of Total Housing Units with Montgomery Township showing the greatest increase.

<b>TABLE 24 1990-2000 Total Housing Units</b>	1990 Total Housing Units	2000 Total Housing Units	Value Change	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	727	770	43	5.91%
Montgomery Township	1,610	1,849	239	14.84%
Peters Township	1,628	1,718	90	5.53%
St. Thomas Township	2,181	2,292	111	5.09%
Warren Township	138	148	10	7.25%
School District Total	6,284	6,777	493	7.85%

Table 25 profiles the Total Housing Units of each municipality including housing units built since 2000. The overall Total Housing Units shows an increase of 739 units or 10.90%. Each Township shows an increase of Total Housing Units.

<b>TABLE 25 2000-2007 Total Housing Units</b>	2000 Total Housing Units	Summer 2007 Total Housing Units	Housing Units Built After 2000	% Change
Mercersburg Borough	770	770	not available	not available
Montgomery Township	1,849	2,308	459	24.82%
Peters Township	1,718	1,828	110	6.40%
St. Thomas Township	2,292	2,458	166	7.24%
Warren Township	148	152	4	2.70%
School District Total	6,777	7,516	739	10.90%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

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### Housing Unit Developments

The following Tables profile the approved Housing Unit Developments of each Municipality that comprise the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on information obtained from the Municipalities.

<b>TABLE 26      Mercersburg Borough Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>			
Development Name	Location	Units	Type
Boroview Farms	Buchanan Trail West (Route 16)	41	Single Family Homes
TOTAL		41	

<b>TABLE 27      Montgomery Township Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>		
Development Name / Location	Units	Type
Deerwood Villas & Deerwood Manor	857	Single Family Homes Townhouses & Condos.
TOTAL	857	

# DEMOGRAPHICS

## Housing Unit Developments

<b>TABLE 28 Peters Township Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>			
<b>Development Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Type</b>
Findley Park	Buchanan Drive	3	Lots
Wharton Ridge	Woods Road / Buchanan Trail West	9	Lots
Loudon Meadows	Main Street, Ft. Loudon	12	Lots
Loudon View	Intersection of 30/75, Ft. Loudon	18	Lots
Borough View	Buchanan Trail West	41	Lots
Shindle Farm	Lemar Road / Woods Road	7	Lots
GV Property	Buchanan Trail West	1	Lots
Kline/Huff	Lemar Road	3	Lots
Viridian Prop.	Etter Avenue	8	Lots
Lemar Crossing	Dry Run	102	Lots
Fox and Fox	Hager Road	26	Lots
1 lot	Letzburg Road	1	Lots
Hissong Farmstead	Woods Road	2	Lots
Tharp/Hollenshead	Path Valley Road	5	Lots
Hoffeditz	Mercersburg Road	1	Lots
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>239</b>	
<b>Peters Township Not Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>			
Fox and Fox	Hager Road Expect to be approved pending sewer work	25	Lots
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>25</b>	

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Housing Unit Developments

<b>TABLE 29 St. Thomas Township Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>		
Development Name / Location	Units	Type
Rolling Rd. and Jacks Mill	8	Lots
Country Meadows / Bettiker Lane, Sunflower Circle, and Spring Bloom Court	24	Lots
Circle Drive and Percy Avenue	5	Lots
Random Oaks / Percy Avenue and Hade Road	80	Lots
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	

<b>TABLE 30 Warren Township Approved Subdivision Plans / Developments</b>		
Development Name / Location	Units	Type
None planned	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	

Warren Township currently has the least population density and the least average household density, due in part to the large amount of state game lands, land in conservation, and land in family farms. There are a few areas in the Township that have the potential for development including the area of Sylvan a 30 acre tract and the lower part of the Township where the land is steep. The planning commission in Warren Township requires hydrologic surveys on land for any development over five lots and the Township requires 250 feet road frontage and 250 foot deep lots.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Live Birth Data

The following Tables profile Live Birth data of the Tuscarora School District. The Data is based on information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The Tables illustrate a net increase in the number of children entering first grade compared to the number of Births thus concluding that an immigration of students is occurring into the School District.

**Table 31** profiles the number of Births from the years 1995 through the years 2010; the data from years 2006-2010 are based on projections. The overall live birth data shows a steady projected rate in the number of live births.

**Table 32** profiles the number of children entering Kindergarten from the year 2000 through the year 2016; the data from years 2007-2016 are based on projections. (The assumption is made that the respective children born in 1995 will enter Kindergarten in the year 2000)

**Table 33** profiles the number of children entering First Grade from the year 2001 through the year 2016; the data from years 2007-2016 are based on projections. (The assumption is made that the respective children born in 1995 will enter First Grade in the year 2001)

TABLE 31	
Year of Birth	No. of Births
1995	164
1996	182
1997	193
1998	202
1999	191
2000	173
2001	176
2002	148
2003	203
2004	191
2005	192
2006	195
2007	198
2008	202
2009	206
2010	210

TABLE 32		
Year Entering Kinder	No. Entering Kinder	% Birth to Kinder
2000	176	107.32%
2001	181	99.45%
2002	185	95.85%
2003	180	89.11%
2004	209	109.42%
2005	185	106.94%
2006	190	107.95%
2007	153	103.38%
2008	210	103.45%
2009	197	103.14%
2010	198	103.13%
2011	202	103.59%
2012	205	103.54%
2013	209	103.47%
2014	213	103.40%
2015	217	103.33%
2016	243	

TABLE 33		
Year Entering First Grade	No. Entering First Grade	% Birth to First Grade
2001	208	126.83%
2002	213	117.03%
2003	239	123.83%
2004	228	112.87%
2005	197	103.14%
2006	195	112.72%
2007	209	118.75%
2008	176	118.92%
2009	241	118.72%
2010	227	118.85%
2011	228	118.75%
2012	231	118.46%
2013	235	118.69%
2014	240	118.81%
2015	244	118.45%
2016	249	118.57%

# DEMOGRAPHICS

## Live Birth Data

The following Charts compares the Live Birth data from the preceding Tables with the Year Entering Kindergarten and the Year Entering First Grade

TABLE 31 & TABLE 32 - CHART A

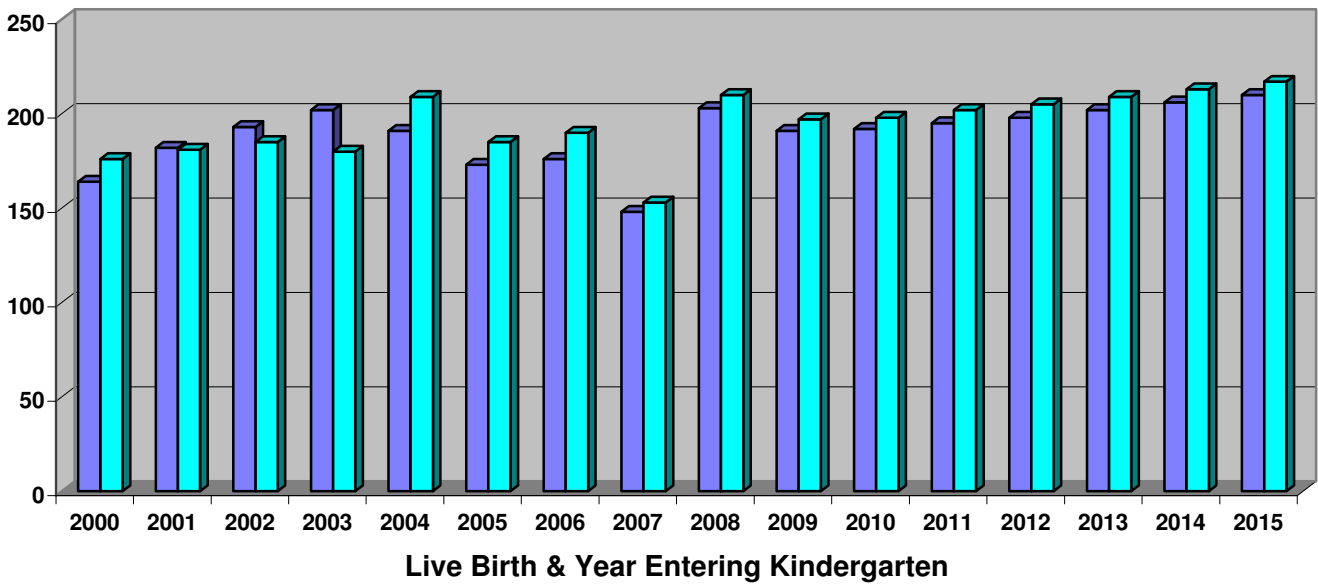
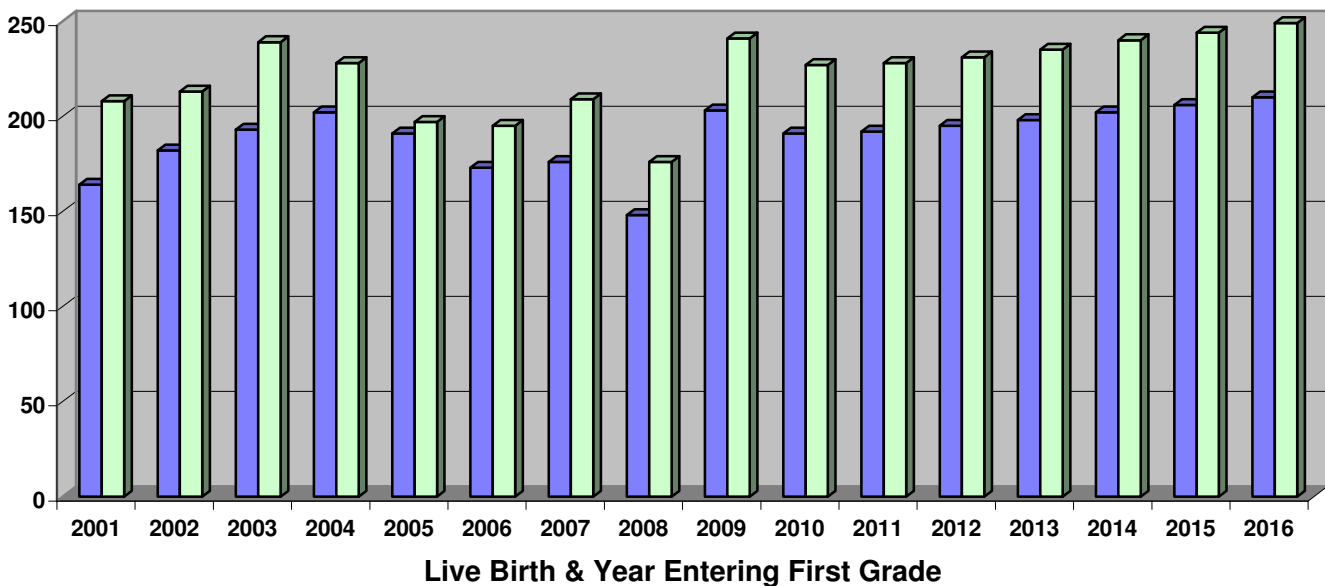


TABLE 31 & TABLE 33 - CHART B



## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

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### **Summary**

#### **Population**

The preceding data, based on the 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census, illustrates a net increase in the Total Population as well as Adults age 18-64 years and Adults age 65+ years and a net decrease in Pre-school age children 0-4 years and School age children 5-17 years.

#### **Households**

The preceding data also illustrates a net increase in the Occupied Housing Units as well as Owner Occupied Units, Vacant Housing Units, and Total Housing Units and a net decrease in Persons Per Household and Renter Occupied Units.

#### **Housing Unit Developments**

Data for Housing Unit Developments collected from the municipalities illustrates the availability of land for development within the School District. Montgomery Township shows the largest growth potential at this time. Warren Township shows the least potential for growth at this time. Warren Township currently has the least population density and the least average household density, due in part to the large amount of state game lands, and land in family farms.

#### **Live Birth Data**

The Live Birth Data, based on information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, illustrates a net increase in the number of children entering first grade compared to the number of Births thus concluding that an in migration of students is occurring into the School District.

#### **Students per Household**

In 2000, there were 3,183 School age children residing in the School District with 2,613 children or 82% attending the Tuscarora School District and 570 children or 18% not attending the District Schools.

In 2000, the percentage of School age children per Total Housing Units was 0.47, while the percentage of Students per Household attending the Tuscarora School District was 0.39

Based on available data, the percentage of students per Total Housing Units attending the Tuscarora School District in the year 2006-2007 is approximately 0.36. While the number of students attending District Schools has increased to 2,741, the number of Households also has increased at a faster rate.

Approximately 570 children or 18% of the School age children residing in the District are not attending District Schools, therefore, the percentage of Students per Total Housing Units attending the Tuscarora School District could increase by any portion of the 18%.

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

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### **Summary**

#### **Data Summary**

While there has been an increase in both the Total Population and Total Housing Units, the number of Persons per Household has decreased. The increase in population is occurring in residents age 18-64 and 65+ years, indicating that while the district is experiencing growth, it is also experiencing an aging population.

There is the potential for population growth within the School District by both new Housing Unit Developments and the current vacant housing units. Much of the land within the School District is in family owned farms and conservation, therefore, while an abundance of land is undeveloped, there is a limit to the amount of land which can ultimately be developed.

#### **Assumptions**

Data for Housing Unit Developments collected from the municipalities illustrates a total of 1,254 potential new Housing Units. There also are approximately 415 Vacant Housing Units. Given the current rate of 0.36 students per household attending the District Schools, this would equate to an additional 450 students in new Housing Units. If half of the Vacant Housing Units also are occupied, then given the current rate of 0.36 students per household attending the District Schools, this would equate to an additional 70 students in the Vacant Housing Units.

##### **Ten year Assumption**

Given the assumption that the timeframe for the additional students is ten years that would equate to 520 students / 10 years. Therefore, an additional 52 students per year would attend the District Schools.

##### **Five year Assumption**

Given the assumption that the timeframe for the additional students is five years that would equate to 520 students / 5 years. Therefore, an additional 104 students per year would attend the District Schools.

# PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT

# METHOD I

## 2006 PDE Projected Student Enrollment

**TABLE 34**

	K	1	2	3	4	5	K-5	6	7	8	6-8	9	10	11	12	9-12	K-12
2002-03	185	213	165	173	181	205	1122	194	234	224	652	249	192	208	167	816	2590
2003-04	180	239	176	175	174	187	1131	205	199	225	629	229	237	177	198	841	2601
2004-05	209	228	209	188	175	182	1191	195	220	200	615	221	222	227	175	845	2651
2005-06	185	239	197	212	192	184	1209	188	209	238	635	205	228	224	221	878	2722
2006-07	190	195	238	198	212	203	1236	191	203	205	599	229	200	220	208	857	2692
2007-08	153	209	174	247	199	224	1206	209	203	204	616	205	225	193	211	834	2656
2008-09	210	176	186	180	249	210	1211	230	222	204	656	204	201	217	185	807	2674
2009-10	197	241	157	193	181	263	1232	216	244	224	684	204	200	194	208	806	2722
2010-11	198	227	215	163	194	191	1188	270	230	246	746	224	200	193	186	803	2737
2011-12	202	228	202	223	164	205	1224	196	287	232	715	245	220	193	185	843	2782
2012-13	205	231	203	209	225	173	1246	211	208	289	708	232	241	212	185	870	2824
2013-14	209	235	206	211	210	238	1309	178	224	210	612	288	228	232	204	952	2873
2014-15	213	240	209	214	212	222	1310	245	189	226	660	210	283	220	223	936	2906
2015-16	217	244	214	217	215	224	1331	228	260	190	678	226	206	273	211	916	2925
2016-17	243	249	217	222	218	227	1376	230	242	262	734	190	222	198	262	872	2982

### METHOD I

The PDE model uses enrollment data reported annually by all local education agencies to the Division of Data Services on the Public School Enrollment Report. Resident live birth data is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Grade progression is determined by calculating retention rates for grades 2 to 12 using the most recent five years of enrollment data. Retention rates for kindergarten are determined by births five years earlier and for first grade from births six years earlier. These rates are evaluated to determine if a pattern is discernable, or if any retention rates are unusual. If a pattern is found, the pattern is continued in making the projections. Unusual retention rates are discarded and the average of the remaining rates is used in making the projections. Nongraded elementary and secondary students are prorated across grades before retention rates are calculated.

# PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT

# METHOD I

## 2006 PDE Projected Student Enrollment

**Table 34A** compares the PDE and District Capacity for each school with the 2006 PDE projected enrollment information.

<b>TABLE 34A</b>	DISTRICT	PDE	Student		Projected		Projected
School	Capacity	Capacity	Enrollment	Growth	Student	Growth	Student
			2006-07		Enrollment		Enrollment
					2011-12		2016-17
Mercersburg Elem.	330	375	337				
Montgomery Elem.	264	300	268				
Mountain View Elem.	264	300	264				
St. Thomas Elem.	396	450	401				
<b>K-5 Total</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>-46</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>1,376</b>
James Buchanan Middle School	845	950	627	65	692	-69	623
<b>6-8 Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>-69</b>	<b>734</b>
James Buchanan High School	919	1,034	844	-41	803	49	852
<b>9-12 Total</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>-41</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>872</b>
<b>K-12 Total</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>-22</b>	<b>2,782</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2,982</b>

# PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT

# METHOD II

## 2006 Projected Student Enrollment Based on Historical Data

**TABLE 35**

	K	1	2	3	4	5	K - 5	6	7	8	6 - 8	9	10	11	12	9 - 12	K-12
2002-03	185	213	165	173	181	205	1122	194	234	224	652	249	192	208	167	816	2590
2003-04	180	239	176	175	174	187	1131	205	199	225	629	229	237	177	198	841	2601
2004-05	209	228	209	188	175	182	1191	195	220	200	615	221	222	227	175	845	2651
2005-06	185	239	197	212	192	184	1209	188	209	238	635	205	228	224	221	878	2722
2006-07	194	195	250	201	220	210	1270	199	212	216	627	262	192	199	191	844	2741
RATIOS		1.187	0.905	1.039	1.02	1.06		1.038	1.074	1.02		1.034	0.972	0.941	0.939		
2007-08	196	230	177	260	204	232	1299	218	214	216	648	223	255	181	187	846	2793
2008-09	198	233	208	183	264	216	1303	241	234	218	694	223	217	240	170	850	2846
2009-10	200	235	211	216	187	279	1328	224	259	239	722	225	217	204	225	872	2923
2010-11	202	238	213	219	220	197	1289	290	241	264	795	247	219	204	192	862	2947
2011-12	204	240	215	221	223	233	1336	205	311	246	762	273	240	206	192	912	3009
2012-13	206	242	217	224	225	236	1350	241	220	318	779	254	266	226	194	939	3068
2013-14	208	245	219	226	228	238	1363	245	259	224	728	328	247	250	212	1038	3129
2014-15	210	247	222	228	230	241	1377	247	263	264	774	232	319	232	235	1018	3169
2015-16	212	249	224	230	232	243	1389	250	265	268	783	273	225	300	218	1017	3190
2016-17	214	252	225	232	234	245	1403	252	268	270	791	277	266	212	282	1037	3230

### METHOD II

Kindergarten enrollment increased by 2 students each year. This is based upon the average of historical increase of the past five years.

# PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT

# METHOD II

## 2006 Projected Student Enrollment Based on Historical Data

Table 35A compares the PDE and District Capacity for each school with the 2006 projected enrollment information.

<b>TABLE 35A</b>	DISTRICT	PDE	Student		Projected		Projected
School	Capacity	Capacity	Enrollment	Growth	Student	Growth	Student
			2006-07		Enrollment		Enrollment
					2011-12		2016-17
Mercersburg Elem.	330	375	337				
Montgomery Elem.	264	300	268				
Mountain View Elem.	264	300	264				
St. Thomas Elem.	396	450	401				
<b>K-5 Total</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1,336</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>1,403</b>
James Buchanan Middle School	845	950	627	135	762	29	791
<b>6-8 Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>791</b>
James Buchanan High School	919	1,034	844	68	912	125	1,037
<b>9-12 Total</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1,037</b>
<b>K-12 Total</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>3,231</b>

**PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT****METHOD III**

2006 Projected Student Enrollment based on 10 Year Assumption and 5 Year Assumption

**TABLE 36**

		PROJECTIONS		
YEAR	K-12 PDE HISTORY	K-12 PDE PROJECTIONS	K-12 10 YEAR ASSUMPTION	K-12 5 YEAR ASSUMPTION
2002	2,590			
2003	2,601			
2004	2,651			
2005	2,722			
2006	2,692			
2007		2,656	2,708	2,760
2008		2,674	2,778	2,882
2009		2,722	2,878	3,034
2010		2,737	2,945	3,153
2011		2,782	3,042	3,302
2012		2,824	3,136	3,448
2013		2,873	3,237	3,601
2014		2,906	3,322	3,738
2015		2,925	3,393	3,861
2016		2,982	3,502	4,022

**METHOD III**

K-12 projected enrollment is based on Vacant Housing Units and Housing Unit Development assumptions. 10 year assumption: additional 52 students per year. 5 year assumption: additional 104 students per year.

**PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

**METHOD III**

**2006 Projected Student Enrollment based on 10 Year Assumption and 5 Year Assumption**

**Table 36A** compares the PDE and District Capacity for each school with the 2006 projected enrollment information.

<b>TABLE 36A</b>	DISTRICT	PDE	Student		Projected		Projected
School	Capacity	Capacity	Enrollment	Growth	Student	Growth	Student
			2006-07		Enrollment		Enrollment
					2011-12		2016-17
Mercersburg Elem.	330	375	337				
Montgomery Elem.	264	300	268				
Mountain View Elem.	264	300	264				
St. Thomas Elem.	396	450	401				
<b>K-5 Total</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,270</b>				
James Buchanan Middle School	845	950	627				
<b>6-8 Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
James Buchanan High School	919	1,034	844				
<b>9-12 Total</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>K-12 Total (10 Year)</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>3,502</b>
<b>K-12 Total (5 Year)</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>3,302</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>4,022</b>

**PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT****METHOD IV****2006 Projected Student Enrollment****TABLE 37**

		PROJECTIONS		
YEAR	K-12 HISTORY	K-12 LOW	K-12 HIGH	K-12 AVERAGE
1999	2,667			
2000	2,635			
2001	2,652			
2002	2,632			
2003	2,648			
2004	2,745			
2005	2,782			
2006	2,843	2,843	2,843	2,843
2007		2,950	2,971	2,961
2008		3,057	3,121	3,089
2009		3,163	3,293	3,228
2010		3,270	3,486	3,378
2011		3,377	3,701	3,539
2012		3,484	3,937	3,711
2013		3,591	4,195	3,893
2014		3,697	4,475	4,086
2015		3,804	4,776	4,290
2016		3,911	5,099	4,505

**METHOD IV**

This Method is a Summary of District Enrollments - History and Projections, completed by William M. Bassin, DBA, and presented in September 2007, to the Tuscarora School District.

# PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLLMENT

# METHOD IV

## 2006 Projected Student Enrollment

Table 37A compares the PDE and District Capacity for each school with the 2006 projected enrollment information.

<b>TABLE 37A</b>	DISTRICT	PDE	Student		Projected		Projected
School	Capacity	Capacity	Enrollment	Growth	Student	Growth	Student
			2006-07		Enrollment		Enrollment
					2011-12		2016-17
Mercersburg Elem.	330	375	337				
Montgomery Elem.	264	300	268				
Mountain View Elem.	264	300	264				
St. Thomas Elem.	396	450	401				
<b>K-5 Total</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,270</b>				
James Buchanan Middle School	845	950	627				
<b>6-8 Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>627</b>				
James Buchanan High School	919	1,034	844				
<b>9-12 Total</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>844</b>				
<b>K-12 Total</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,436</b>	<b>2,741</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>4,505</b>

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

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### **Building Capacity Overview**

To properly analyze the impact of students on the Tuscarora School District and its facilities, one must look at the functional capacity of the existing schools. The Pennsylvania Department of Education had established State standards and guidelines which, coupled with the District's program, can produce a rather straight forward calculation. The current use and State standards have been used to determine the building capacity. These capacities are compared to the enrollment projections provided in this section of the Study. The comparison between student projections and building capacities is shown in graphic illustration for the K-5; 6-8; 9-12; and K-12 grade alignments.

### **The current building capacities have been adjusted by the following method:**

1. Capacity evaluation of current educational spaces against the Pennsylvania Department of Education (P.D.E.) guidelines for room size:
  - a. Classrooms under 660 s.f. receive no capacity.
  - b. Secondary spaces under 1,800 s.f. for Technology Education receive no capacity.
2. Present use of space for activities other than original intent:
  - a. Areas far too small to permit functional efficiency.
  - b. Media Centers or other core facilities much smaller than recommended by guidelines.
  - c. Absence of space recommended for some functions.
  - d. Use of certain functional areas for general storage.
3. Evaluation of building on Code requirements of physical facilities (i.e., toilet rooms).
4. Evaluation of specialized instruction beyond basic curriculum (i.e., music, art learning support, speech and language, Chapter 1, gifted and talented, and ancillary facilities for staff).

Future needs must look beyond merely a comparison between population and capacity projections. There is a need to look at curriculum, special programs, classroom size for all programs, and use of space not designed for current use.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

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### **Building Capacity Overview**

#### **Elementary Level**

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (P.D.E.) assigns 25 students per regular classroom greater than 660 s.f. for the purposes of formulating State reimbursement. There is a phenomenon at the elementary level within school districts that have multiple buildings to assign students from various regions, or neighborhoods. This phenomenon is compounded by the fact that students do not always come in even increments of 25 students per grade, per classroom; therefore, the student efficiency of classrooms is not always 100%. In addition to this phenomenon, most School Districts prefer smaller classroom sizes at the Elementary level. Therefore, District capacities also are provided for comparison with enrollment projections. In the case of the Tuscarora School District, there are currently 194 students in kindergarten. This number divided by the District guideline of 22 per room gives 9 rooms. The number of rooms presently used for kindergarten is 9, with an average of 21.5 students per room. Grades 1-5 have 1076 students in 50 classrooms. This averages out to 21.5 students per classroom.

For the purposes of this study, Elementary *Functional Capacity* includes Graded Classrooms, while the *Total Capacity* also includes Regular Support Classrooms that are needed to support the educational program. Elementary Schools typically do not receive capacity for other support spaces such as Art, Music and Computer Labs because when students are using these spaces their respective classrooms are unoccupied.







#### **Secondary Grades**

Students typically move between classes at the Secondary Level. Therefore, P.D.E. assigns capacity to specific instructional spaces that meet minimum size requirements. Regular classrooms greater than 660 s.f. receive a capacity of 25 while Laboratory spaces receive a capacity of 20. Since scheduling the facility at 100% is unlikely, a capacity utilization factor is then applied to the total. P.D.E. uses a capacity utilization factor of 90%, while the District uses a capacity utilization factor of 80%.

For the purposes of this study, Secondary *Functional Capacity* includes all spaces that receive capacity with the exception of the Natatorium, while the *Total Capacity* also includes the Natatorium and District Administration Offices.



## EXISTING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Building	Existing Grade Alignment	2007 Student Enrollment	Functional Building Capacity	Highest Projected Enrollment			
			<b>DIST</b>	<b>PDE</b>			
	MERCERSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-5	337	330	375		
	MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-5	268	264	300		
	MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-5	264	264	300		
	ST THOMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	K-5	401	396	450		
<b>K-5 TOTAL</b>		<b>869</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>1,425</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>1,360</b> *	
	J. BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL	6-8	627	845	950	791	659 *
	J. BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL	9-12	844	919	1,034	1,038	943 *
<b>K-12 TOTAL</b>		<b>1,471</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>1,984</b>	<b>1,829</b>	<b>1,734</b> *	

\* PDE allows Current Enrollment + 10% to be used as Highest Projected Enrollment for Project Grades

**EXISTING BUILDING CAPACITY**

**K-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

**Existing Adjusted Capacity**

	MERCERSBURG ELEMENTARY			MONTGOMERY ELEMENTARY			MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY			ST. THOMAS ELEMENTARY		
	DIST. NO.	PDE F.T.E.	F.T.E.	DIST. NO.	PDE F.T.E.	F.T.E.	DIST. NO.	PDE F.T.E.	F.T.E.	DIST. NO.	PDE F.T.E.	F.T.E.
Half-day Kindergarten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full-day Kindergarten	2	44	50	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Reg Clsrm 1	3	66	75	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Reg Clsrm 2	3	66	75	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Reg Clsrm 3	3	66	75	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Reg Clsrm 4	2	44	50	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Reg Clsrm 5	2	44	50	2	44	50	2	44	50	3	66	75
Support Classroom	1	22	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	22	25
Special Education Clsrm S.E. Seminar / S.G.I.	3			2			2			2		
Media Center	1			1			1			1		
Small Group Instruction				1			1					
Large Group Instruction												
Computer Lab	1			1			1			1		
Art Classroom	1			1			1			1		
Music Classroom	1			1			1			1		
Gymnasium / Multi-Purpose	1			1			1			1		
Student Dining	1			1			1			1		
Kitchen Areas	1			1			1			1		
<b>FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>375</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>396</b>	<b>450</b>	
<b>TOTAL CAPACITY</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>400</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>300</b>		<b>418</b>	<b>475</b>	

P.D.E. Capacity = 25 students per classroom; District Capacity = 22 students per classroom

Elementary Functional Capacity includes Graded Classrooms, while the Total Capacity also includes Support Classrooms that are needed to support the educational program.

St. Thomas and Mountain View Elementary Schools experienced a student enrollment "bubble" at the Third Grade level, therefore, classrooms intended for other use, were needed for Third Grade. Montgomery Elementary School converted a Music Room to a Special Education classroom. The Existing building capacity has been adjusted in the schools to represent the intended or adjusted use of space, therefore, showing each School with respective support classrooms including Art, Music and Computer Education spaces.

**EXISTING BUILDING CAPACITY**

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

**Existing Adjusted Capacity**

	JAMES BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL			JAMES BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL		
	NO.	DIST. F.T.E.	PDE F.T.E.	NO.	DIST. F.T.E.	PDE F.T.E.
Reg Clsrm 660+ SF	28	700	700	22	550	550
Reg Clsrm < 660 SF		0	0		0	0
Substandard Clsrm		0	0		0	0
Special Education Clsrm	4			4		
S.E. Seminar / S.G.I.				3		
Media Center	1			1		
Small Group Instruction	2			1		
Large Group Instruction	1					
Auditorium / Stage	1			1		
Science Classroom		0	0	1	25	25
Science Lab	6	120	120	6	120	120
Planetarium w/ Clsrm		0	0		0	0
Business Classroom		0	0	1	25	25
Business Lab		0	0	2	40	40
Distance Learning Lab		0	0	1	20	20
Computer Lab	2	40	40	1	20	20
Art Classroom	1	20	20	2	40	40
Music Classroom	1	25	25	1	25	25
Band Room	1	25	25	1	25	25
Orchestra Room		0	0		0	0
Choral Room		0	0		0	0
Family & Consumer Science	2	40	40	3	60	60
TE Shop		0	0	2	40	40
TE Shop	1	20	20	2	40	40
Vo Ag Shop w/ Clsrm		0	0	1	20	20
Driver's Ed		0	0		0	0
Gymnasium	1	66	66	1	99	99
Auxiliary Gym		0	0		0	0
Adaptive Gym	1					
Natatorium				1	31	31
Student Dining	1			1		
Kitchen Areas	1			1		
<b>FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY</b>		<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>		<b>919</b>	<b>1,034</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPACITY</b>		<b>845</b>	<b>950</b>		<b>950</b>	<b>1,065</b>

P.D.E. Capacity for secondary grades uses a 90% utilization factor, while an 80% utilization factor is used for the District Capacity. The Total Capacity includes the Natatorium.

# ENROLLMENT / CAPACITY EVALUATION

## Projected Student Enrollment (K-5)

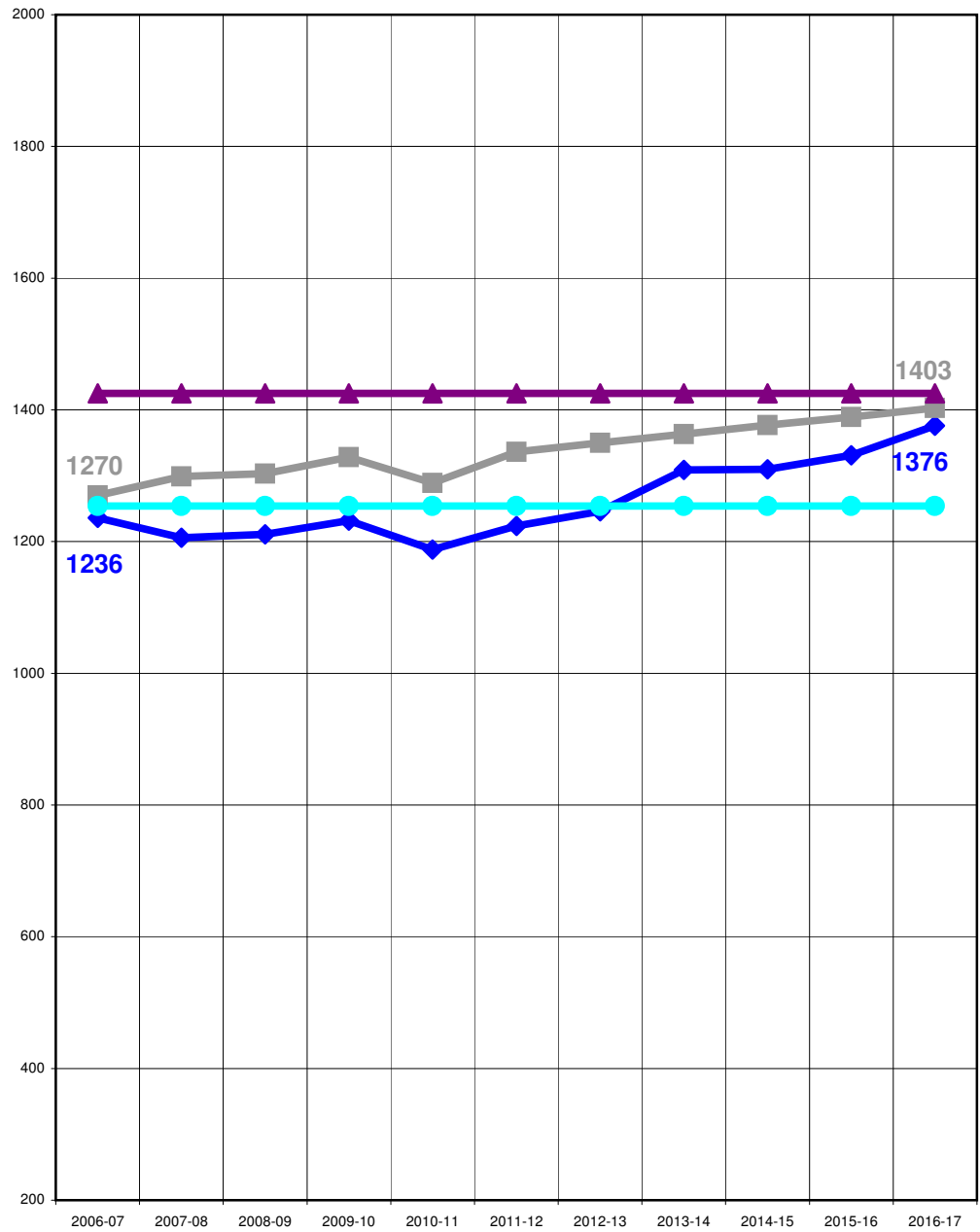
TABLE 38

PDE Capacity (1425)

District Capacity (1,254)

Method I

Method II

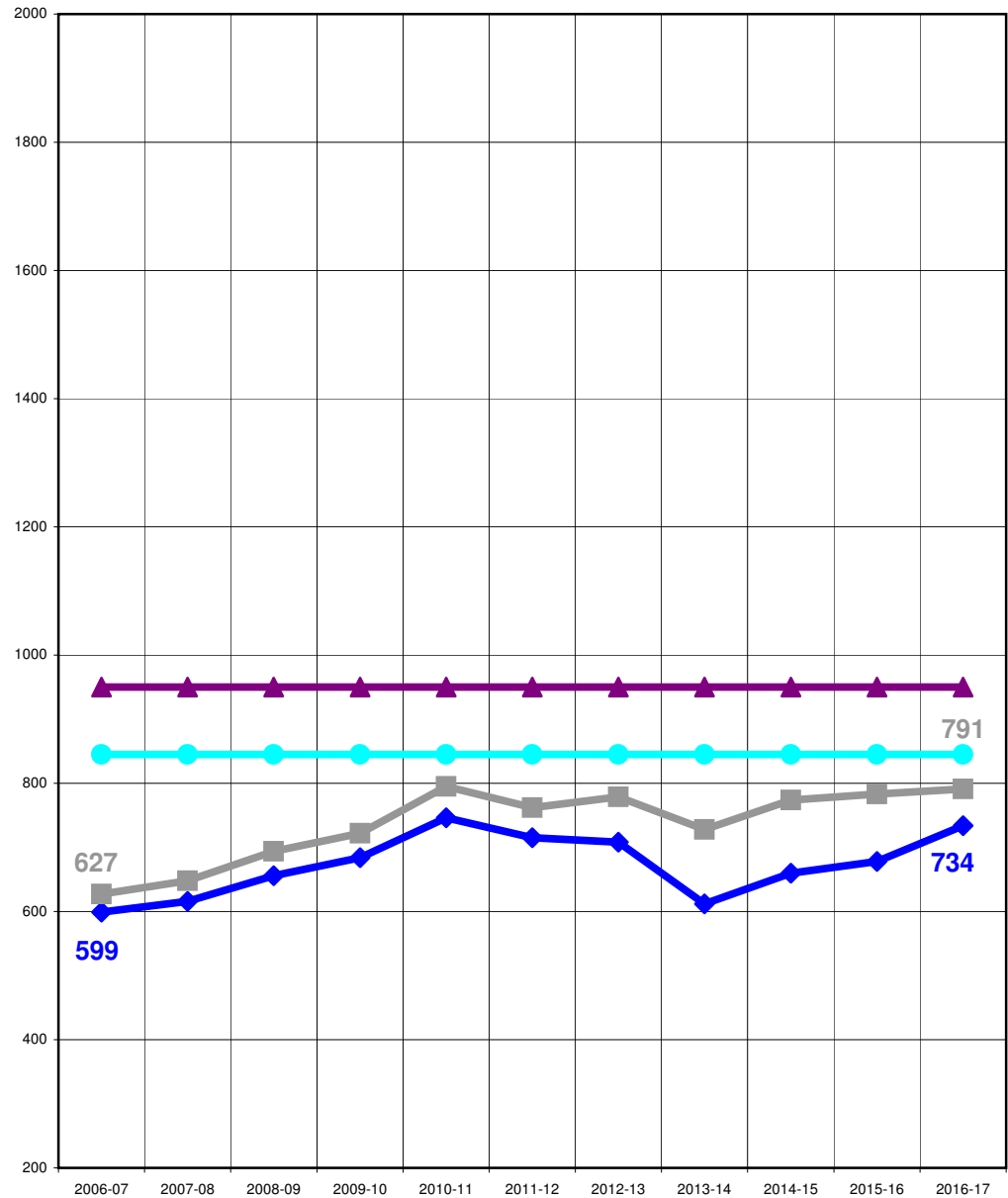


# ENROLLMENT / CAPACITY EVALUATION

## Projected Student Enrollment (6-8)

TABLE 39

PDE Capacity (950)  
 District Capacity (845)  
 Method I  
 Method II



# ENROLLMENT / CAPACITY EVALUATION

## Projected Student Enrollment (9-12)

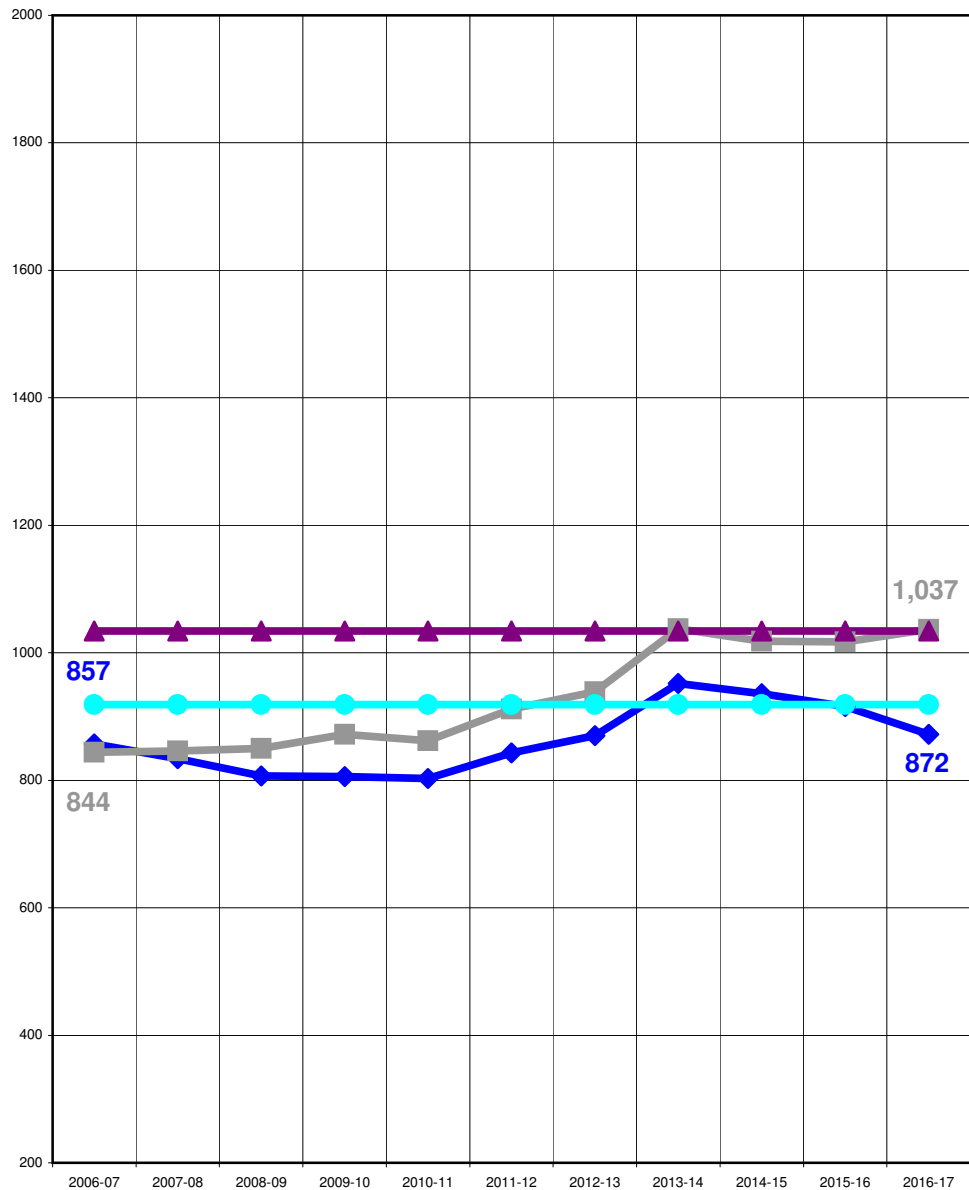
TABLE 40

PDE Capacity (1061)

District Capacity (943)

Method I

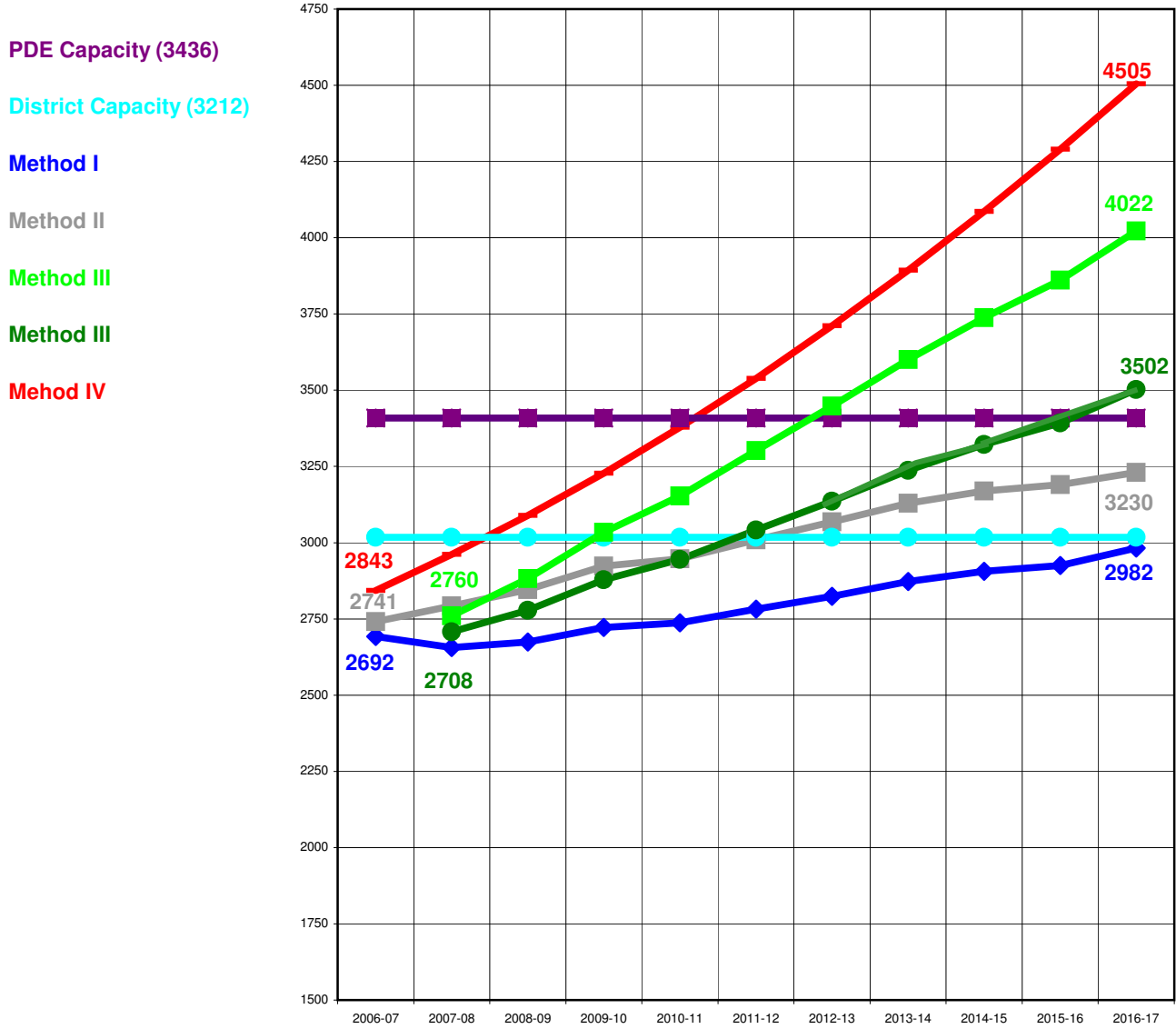
Method II



# ENROLLMENT / CAPACITY EVALUATION

## Projected Student Enrollment (K-12)

TABLE 41



## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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### **Overview of Tuscarora Area School District's Educational Program**

The Tuscarora School District covers approximately 206 square miles, and is located within the borders of Franklin County in South-Central Pennsylvania, including the Borough of Mercersburg as well as Montgomery, Peters, St. Thomas and Warren Townships. The District is primarily a rural agricultural area with a total population of approximately 17,000 people. The District consists of four K-5 Elementary schools (Saint Thomas Elementary, Mountain View Elementary, Mercersburg Elementary and Montgomery Elementary), one 6-8 Middle School (James Buchanan Middle School), one 9-12 High School (James Buchanan High School), and the District Administration Office.

### **Tuscarora School District Mission and Academic Goals**

The mission of the Tuscarora School District, in cooperation with families and communities, is to provide an education that challenges all students to achieve their full potential. As a result, students will become increasingly productive contributors in society. The District is committed to providing quality schools that provide instruction throughout the curriculum so that each student may achieve the following academic goals:

#### **Communications**

Each student shall become proficient in reading, composition, listening, speech, understanding, interpreting, analyzing and synthesizing information.

#### **Mathematics**

Each student shall become proficient in the use of the varied mathematical processes and applications to solve challenging understanding information.

#### **Science and Technology**

Each student shall become proficient in applying the processes of analysis, synthesis and evaluation to the solution of challenging scientific problems and in the application and understanding of technology in society.

#### **Environment and Ecology**

Each student shall understand the environment and the student's relationship with the environment in order to recognize the importance of the quality of life in a healthy and balanced environment.

#### **Citizenship**

Each student shall understand local, state, and United States history, geography, systems of government and economics and their relationship to the history, geography, systems of government and economies of other countries in the world and shall acquire and have opportunities to practice in the school and in the community, the skills necessary for active participation in civic life.

# **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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## **Overview of Tuscarora Area School District's Educational Program**

### **Tuscarora School District Mission and Academic Goals (continued)**

#### **Arts & Humanities**

Each student shall understand and appreciate the breadth of human accomplishment through the arts and humanities and shall have opportunities to practice creativity of thought and action and to demonstrate talent in the arts.

#### **Career Education and Work**

Each student shall explore varied career options and develop the skills and work habits needed to be a productive, contributing member of society. The student shall understand that lifelong learning is necessary to maintain these behaviors, skills, and attitudes.

#### **Wellness and Fitness**

Each student shall acquire and use the knowledge and skills necessary to promote individual and family health and wellness.

#### **Life Management**

Each student shall understand and apply principles of money management, consumer behavior and child health to provide for personal and family needs.

The educational program information was obtained from the Tuscarora School District website.



