

# Student Population Forecasting Valley Center School District

Hugo Wall School of  
Urban and Public Affairs

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# Project Background

- data collection of current and projected development trends for USD 262;
- mapping of current and projected population trends;
- analysis of impact and forecasting of student population for USD 262; and
- preparation of final report

# Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs

- leadership development for locally elected officials
- customized leadership, executive management, and professional development.
- facilitation of governing body retreats
- community forums
- community engagement facilitation
- education and certification for members of professional associations
- consultation on community goal setting and strategic planning
- community and organizational surveys
- applied research

# Project Protocol

- Research time period: Oct. 2006-Jan. 2007
- Main Sources of Information:
  - City of Valley Center, City of Park City, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission
  - Valley Center School District: Technical Support
  - U.S. Department of Census and American FactFinder.
  - Sedgwick County Geographical Information Systems,
  - Goddard, Maize, Derby, and Andover school districts.
  - Development Community

# USD 262 Population Trends

2004	2005	2006
2,463	2,494	2,583
+3.78%	+1.24%	+3.45%

# Community Population Trends

	1990	2000	2005
<b>Kechi</b>	517	1,038 (+50%)	1,242 (+16%)
<b>Park City</b>	5,050	5,814 (+15%)	7,173 (+19%)
<b>VC</b>	3,624	4,483 (+26%)	5,508 (+12%)

# Annexation Growth

	2000 SQM	2005 SQM
<b>Kechi</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Park City</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<b>Valley Center</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>6.0</b>

# Development Trends

- Infrastructure improvements for water and sewer dramatically decrease the cost of development
- Schools remain to be the number one factor for people moving to a new community
- The old real estate motto of “location, location, location” rings true
- Aggressive growth communities



## Lessons from other school districts

- Goddard, Maize, Derby and Andover
  - Plan early and often.
  - Involve as many stakeholders as possible in the planning discussion.
  - Anticipate a negative response from some residents that believe that children outside of their city's boundaries are not the responsibility of the school district

# Students Per Household Formula

Average household size *multiplied by* the percentage of school-age children *equals the* number of school-age children per household.

Example:      Average household size: 4 people

X

Percentage of population school-age children: 25%

=

Number of school-age children per household: 1

Valley Center: # school-age children per household = .61.

Park City: # school-age children per household = .68.

## Model # 1

Number of Available Lots  
in current developments

X

Formula for  
Number of school-age children per  
household

Example: 20 lots X .61 = 12.2

## Impact Model #1

*Using a seven year projection,  
the average student population increase  
each year would be  
105 students or 4.06% growth  
annually*

## Model #2

- Housing Starts for an indicator of growth
  - Valley Center, 2006 = 59
  - Park City, 2006 = 31
  - Other parts of Valley Center School District = 20
- Developer's Desire
  - 20 to 30 new homes per large development
- Average developer's and 2006 actual starts =  
160 housing starts

## Impact of Model #2

- 160 x formula for students per household =  
***98 new students each year or a 3.79%***

## Model #3

- Past three years annual growth rate of 2.82%
- Project out sustained growth rate for the next seven years

## Model #3 Impact

- *92 new students each year with the projected 2.82% increase each year for the next seven years*



# Major Findings

- More than an eight percent increase in student population in the past three years
- Ten development communities with more than 30 available lots in Valley Center; the largest have 245 and 300 sites
- The School District includes Park City, an aggressive, pro-development community
- Recent infrastructure improvements allow for additional housing developments
- New commercial developments along I-135 and at 53rd and Meridian are early indicators for strong housing markets
- Area development experts believe that the Valley Center school district will experience an increase in housing starts/enrollment.
- Valley Center has experienced recent housing increases, while the rest of Sedgwick County has declined

# Anticipated Results

- *Therefore, it is the conclusion of this report that the Valley Center school district should anticipate steady growth from 3-4 percent in the next years five to seven years.*

# Recommendations

- USD 262 should meet regularly with *planning officials* and *developers*
- Estimates used in this report are conservative. Current development indicators all point to increased growth. Contingency plans should be made for significant growth beyond the anticipated 3-4 percent.
- Finally, it is recommended that the School District should open dialogue with citizens and stakeholders to create an on-going forum for planning for USD 262.