

DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

District enrollment is determined on October 1st of each academic year. The number of students enrolled in our District schools must be submitted to the State of Connecticut Department of Education through its Public School Information System. District enrollment numbers are used to calculate state and federal grants and are subject to audit. All students who attend District schools are included in our enrollment numbers, regardless of where they reside. This includes pre-kindergarten students, tuition-in students, and Agriscience students.

Enrollment in the District declined from 2013 through 2018, with a slight recovery in 2019. While COVID brought many new families into our schools, the uptick was tempered by an increase in homeschooled children and the temporary furlough of the REACH program. The bar graph below shows enrollment for the last several years. With the addition of the Agriscience program, declining enrollments have an opportunity to stabilize as demonstrated. This stability is based on conservative five-year projections shared in the Prowda Report.⁴

<u>Year</u>	<u>Students</u>		<u>Percent Increase</u>
10/1/2013	796		
10/1/2014	747		-6.2%
10/1/2015	728		-2.5%
10/1/2016	707		-2.9%
10/1/2017	688		-2.7%
10/1/2018	682		-0.9%
10/1/2019	701		2.8%
10/1/2020	688		-1.9%
10/1/2021	763		10.9%
Projected 10/1/2022	822		7.7%
Projected 10/1/2023	834		1.5%

⁴ The COVID-19 pandemic has placed upward pressure on enrollment by families seeking refuge from more populated areas. This upturn in enrollment was offset by the postponement of the REACH program which resulted in a significant reduction in Pre-K enrollment. As conditions normalize, further discussion on the lasting effects of the upturn can be evaluated.