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## DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY

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for the

### **FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Freehold, Monmouth County, State of New Jersey

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Prepared By:

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**November 15, 2014**

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**Whereas**, all New Jersey Public School Districts are required by N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.1 to prepare a Long Range Facility Plan and,

**Whereas**, N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.2 requires the certification of the school district's Long Range Facility Plan demographics by a qualified demographer and,

**Whereas**, Whitehall Associates, Inc. is considered a qualified demographer by the New Jersey Department of Education.

**Therefore**, Whitehall Associates, Inc. states that the demographic report it prepared for the Freehold Borough Board of Education was prepared in compliance with the appropriate law and administrative code.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The enrollments for these demographics begin with the 2009-2010 school year and end with the 2014-2015 school year. The enrollment projections are through the 2019-2020 school year. They take into account the dynamics of the district and may or may not agree with the report posted on the web by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The NJDOE report does not take into account some of the dynamics such as residential development or changes in programs. Bernard Plaia, at the NJDOE Office of School Facilities, has agreed to accept this report, if it is submitted in its complete final form, with an original signature, along with the NJDOE cohort survival worksheets for the Long Range Facility Plan.

The original of this report is on electronic file at the offices of Whitehall Associates, Inc. and is available for examination by the appropriate authorities.

For:

WHITEHALL ASSOCIATES, INC.

Joseph Richardson, PhD  
President

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## INTRODUCTION

Whitehall Associates was retained by the Freehold Borough Board of Education to prepare a demographic study for the Freehold Borough Public Schools. The information in this demographic report is suitable for inclusion in any document to be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Education for matters concerning school facilities.

## OVERVIEW OF THE DISTRICT

Freehold Borough covers 2.00 square miles in Monmouth County, New Jersey. The school district is in District Factor Group B. The Board of Education maintains three schools in a Pre-K-8 district. Board offices are located at 280 Park Avenue in Freehold. Students from Freehold Borough attend Freehold Borough High School in Freehold, one of the high schools in the Freehold Regional High School District.

## SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING

### THE LONG RANGE FACILITY PLAN SUBMISSION

If the cohort projections, as developed in the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Long Range Facility Plan (LRF) electronic data sheets, do not fit a particular district, the correct information may be entered manually. Even so there are some cells on the worksheets that cannot be modified, such as the birth to kindergarten ratio in districts where the birth figures are inaccurate. If a reason exists not to use the birth to kindergarten ratios and some other method is used, such as a regression analysis of the kindergarten figures, the information may be entered manually. Any modification to the NJDOE

worksheets will be fully explained in this report. In some instances there is no way to rectify this report with the NJDOE worksheets. The Office of the Chief of Staff - School Facilities of the NJDOE will accept this report in its final form if submitted, in its entirety, along with the NJDOE worksheets. This report must be submitted with an original signature on page 2.

## SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING PRE-SCHOOL REPORTING

As of June 13, 2008, The NJDOE promulgated N.J.A.C. 6A-13A which established the ground rules for state funded pre-school programs. One of the factors was determining the "universe". According to the definitions in paragraph 1.2, "Universe of eligible three- and four-year-old children" means all three- and four-year-old general education children eligible for preschool pursuant to the School Funding Reform Act (P.L. 2007, c. 260) in a public school district providing a *universal* or *targeted* pre-school program. This is different than what was previously used by demographers. Previously, the "universe" was considered the maximum number of students that could be expected to be enrolled in pre-school programs. It was generally accepted that this figure would be the live births for that cohort. The NJDOE Data Center now combines the pre-kindergarten figures and list them as **PK**.

Of special concern, at the time this report is being prepared, is the reporting of pre-school students to NJDOE by the district, whose figures are used to prepare this report. Current instructions from NJSMART give an option to the district NOT to report pre-school students under certain circumstances. This can substantially affect the

total enrollment figures and provide a false number of students for which the district most provide space. The problem has been presented to NJDOE by Whitehall and several concerned districts. At this time there is no definitive solution. Whitehall must rely on the district to provide the correct numbers at the time the draft is reviewed or preferably before.

#### **NOTE CONCERNING THE SOURCE OF ENROLLMENT DATA**

In 2010 the Fall Survey Report, which was previously used as the basis for demographic projections dealing with facilities, was eliminated by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). Official student enrollments are now computed from NJSMART using the **Program Type Codes**. This was done to standardize reporting and make it simpler for the NJDOE to prepare reports that are needed by Federal, State, and local entities.

The projections for the pre-school students are calculated by the cohort survival method. We have found this to be the most accurate method.

#### **ENROLLMENT DATA AND PROJECTIONS**

In studies for the New Jersey Department of Education, enrollment data, by grade, as of October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year for the past six years is required. A five year enrollment projection based on these data and computed by the cohort survival method is required. The resulting enrollments are used as a factor in determining the adequacy of the educational facilities. Birth figures are obtained from the Center for

Health Statistics of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Enrollment figures are as described in the previous section. The only special education students in this report are those in self-contained classrooms. Self-contained students are defined as those with 39 percent or less time in regular classes. Prior to the 2010-11 school year these students were reported by classification as special education students and by grade grouping such as pre-kindergarten, K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Now they are grouped together as “ungraded” or “UG”.

In developing a projection of five year enrollments, the cohort-survival method has been used as a base. This method is the one required by law and expected by the New Jersey Department of Education unless a cogent reason exists for another method to be used. The use of a different method must be explained and justified to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Education.

The cohort-survival method acquires its name from the use of grade to grade survival figures derived from a recent history of the school district. Grade survival ratios at each level can then be computed on the basis of the recent years' known enrollment with an average survival ratio per grade determined. Ratios less than one usually reflect such factors as out-transfers, ex-migration from the school district and other such losses. A survival ratio of more than one usually reflects such factors as in--transfers and in-migration. Projections of enrollment can then be made by applying the individual grade by grade survival ratio to each grade level for future years with a base of known enrollments for the present year. In reports for districts

with self-contained special education students, projections are made by using the percent of population method. That is, the number of special education students is divided by the total school population to arrive at a percentage for each year. The last year's percentage in Table 2 is used to project the number of special education students reported in Table 3.

With some adaptation to local circumstances, the cohort survival method is the most accurate we have to project enrollments. In rapidly developing districts, the impact of new residential development must be taken into account. This is accomplished by using data derived from the Center for Urban Policy Research at Rutgers University and Whitehall's research. In Freehold Borough's case there is no proposed residential development that will warrant the modification of the cohort survival projections.

#### **MUNICIPAL POPULATION TRENDS**

This table lists the population of Freehold Borough since 1930. The municipality has experienced an increase in general population in all decades except the 1970's. The greatest percentage increase came in the 1950's and 1960's. The rate of growth for the 1990's was 2.18 percent and 9.80 percent from 2000 to 2010.

#### **TABLE 1**

The pre-kindergarten data for the district, both the "universe" and the actual is provided. Please refer back to the special comments on page 4 concerning pre-school enrollment projections.

#### **TABLE 2**

The district's enrollment history is exhibited wherein the survival ratios mentioned in the preceding paragraphs are developed. Student enrollments used were those provided by the district administration to the New Jersey Department of Education or to Whitehall Associates directly. These figures are for students housed in the district schools and do not include out of district placements. This method is standard and is fully acceptable by the Department of Education and required by law as the source of enrollments. Birth figures were obtained from the Center for Health Statistics of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDOH). This also is standard and is required by law.

#### **TABLE 3**

This is the main table and is designed to be used in conferences and meetings and conforms to the NJDOE worksheet. It allows the participant to be able to refer to one page rather than searching through a document for more information. The back-up for Table 3 entries will be found in other tables. All calculations are carried to eight or more decimal places. Since there cannot be fractions of a student, the district totals may vary by one or two students if added manually. These projections can and should be updated every year.

The solid boxed area to the lower left of the table is an area of low confidence in that these children have either not been born or reported.

Births in the red dashed boxed area may be shown as a regression, an average of the last nine year's births, or the last known birth figure. In this case we used an average of the last nine year's live births.

Table 3 shows the live births attributed to Freehold Borough for the five years prior to the kindergarten year shown.

The projection of student enrollment for the next five years has been made. The total school population is expected to increase by 46 students or 2.82 percent in the next five years, excluding any residential development impact.

#### TABLE 4

This table shows the population impact of planned and approved residential development in the district. The name of the development, type, number of units, number of bedrooms and remarks were supplied by Antoinette Jones of the Freehold Borough Registrar's Office.

We begin with some assumptions. The cohort survival method assumes that the rate of growth during the period the data is collected will remain the same for the period of population projection. Therefore the rate of growth indicated in Table 2 will carry over to Table 3 in all cases. Now if something were to happen that changes the rate of growth, that event must be taken into account. Residential development is one of those factors. There are several options at this point:

- a. If the development impact in Table 4 is less than the projected

five year increase in student population shown in Table 3, the Table 4 impact is ignored. To do otherwise would be double counting.

- b. If the development impact in Table 4 is more than the projected five year increase in student population shown in Table 3, the net impact is shown on the line labeled **Net Development Impact** in Table 3.

- c. If there is a projected decrease in the student population in Table 3, the entire Table 4 impact is considered and shown on the line labeled **Net Development Impact** in Table 3.

- d. If, within the past five years, there has been no development of the magnitude shown in Table 4, the entire Table 4 impact is considered and shown on a line labeled **Net Development Impact** in Table 3.

Since the anticipated residential development impact of three is less than the projected student increase of 46 in Table 3, the Table 4 impact is ignored. To do otherwise would be double counting.

#### TABLE 5

The enrollment projections by school, by grade for the year 2019-20 are shown here. The ratio of students was taken from the October 15, 2014 enrollment data supplied by the district, as mentioned in the section on the source of enrollment data, and applied to the 2019-20 district wide projections. This method is required by the NJDOE in the Long Range Facilities Plan.

**FREEHOLD BOROUGH**  
**MUNICIPAL POPULATION TRENDS**

**LAND AREA = 2.00 Sq. Mi.**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>POPULATION</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>% INCREASE</b>
1930	6,894	58	0.84%
1940	6,952	598	8.60%
1950	7,550	1,590	21.06%
1960	9,140	1,405	15.37%
1970	10,545	-525	-4.98%
1980	10,020	722	7.21%
1990	10,742	234	2.18%
2000	10,976	1,076	9.80%
2010	12,052		

**SOURCE:** U.S. Census Bureau



**FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PRE-SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT HISTORY**

YEAR	PK
<b>ACTUAL</b>	
09-10	60
10-11	46
11-12	54
12-13	23
13-14	48
14-15	57
<b>PROJECTED</b>	
15-16	44
16-17	51
17-18	46
18-19	47
19-20	47

**PRE-SCHOOL UNIVERSE CALCULATIONS**

District Factor Group:

Universal Districts = 1st Grade X 2 =

Targeted Districts = 1st Grade X 2 X % of free and reduced (K-12) =

Number of free and reduced lunches (K-12) =

Percent of free and reduced lunches =

**NOTES:**

1. The method for Pre-school universe calculations shown to the left above is that required by the NJDOE Pre-School Education Office.
2. The table to the right is a cohort survival calculation of regular pre-school enrollments as of the 2014-15 school year, exclusive of Pre-K handicapped. Pre-K handicapped students are accounted for with the "UNGRADED" students.
3. Please read the narrative concerning the Pre-school projections.

**TABLE 2  
FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STUDENT ENROLLMENT HISTORY**

School Year	Births 5 Yrs. Ago	PK	K	1st Gr.	2nd Gr.	3rd Gr.	4th Gr.	5th Gr.	6th Gr.	7th Gr.	8th Gr.	UNGRADED	DISTRICT TOTAL
2009-10	246	60	178	157	158	138	120	142	125	126	123	32	1359
		0.22	0.72	1.05	0.94	0.98	0.97	1.03	0.99	0.90			
2010-11	271	46	184	187	148	155	134	124	138	124	114	59	1413
		0.18	0.68	0.94	1.01	1.01	0.99	0.93	1.01	1.02			
2011-12	262	54	185	173	188	149	154	125	119	139	126	63	1475
		0.19	0.71	1.01	0.97	0.93	0.97	0.99	0.93	0.95			
2012-13	280	23	180	186	168	174	145	152	123	111	132	87	1481
		0.09	0.64	1.13	0.90	0.93	1.02	0.98	1.02	1.05			
2013-14	244	48	198	203	168	156	178	142	154	125	117	74	1563
		0.17	0.81	1.10	0.92	0.95	1.04	0.97	0.92	0.99			
2014-15	290	57	178	217	187	159	163	172	140	142	124	89	1628
		0.25	0.61	1.10	0.92	0.95	1.04	0.97	0.99	0.99			
Average Survival Ratio		0.18	0.70	1.04	0.95	0.96	1.00	0.98	0.98	0.97	0.98		

**TABLE 3**  
**FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

School Year	Births 5 Yrs. Ago	PK	K	1st Gr.	2nd Gr.	3rd Gr.	4th Gr.	5th Gr.	PK-5 Total	6th Gr.	7th Gr.	8th Gr.	6-8 Total	UNGRADED	DISTRICT TOTAL
2015-16	229	44	159	186	206	179	159	160	1093	169	136	140	445	89	1627
2016-17	239	51	166	166	176	197	179	156	1092	157	165	134	456	90	1638
2017-18	278	46	194	174	158	169	197	176	1113	153	153	162	468	91	1673
2018-19	252	47	175	202	165	151	169	193	1103	173	149	150	472	91	1667
2019-20	259	47	180	183	192	158	151	166	1077	190	168	147	505	92	1674
NET DEVELOPMENT IMPACT		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019-20 TOTAL ENROLLMENT		47	180	183	192	158	151	166	1077	190	168	147	505	92	1674

- NOTES:
1. Births in the dashed boxes were calculated by a nine year average of live births. Students in those year groups have not been born or reported to date.
  2. The solid boxed area to the lower left of the table is an area of low confidence in that these children have not been born or reported to date.
  3. All calculations are carried to eight or more decimal places. Since there cannot be fractions of a student, the district total may vary by one or two students if added manually.

**TABLE 4  
FREEHOLD BOROUGH  
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT**

DEVELOPMENT	TYPE OF UNIT	NUMBER OF		REMARKS	TOTAL K-8 STUDENTS
		UNITS	BEDROOMS		
Orchard Place	Multifamily (2-4 units)	8	3		2
Jackson Terrace Subdivision	Single Family - Detached	2	3		1
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>3</b>

**NOTES:**

1. The name of the development, type, number of units, number of bedrooms, and remarks were supplied by Antoinette Jones of the Freehold Borough Registrar's Office.
2. All calculations are carried to eight or more decimal places. Since there cannot be fractions of a student, the district total may vary by one or two students if added manually.
3. If the development impact in Table 4 is the same or less than the projected five year increase in student population, the development impact is ignored.

**TABLE 5  
FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OCTOBER 15, 2014 ENROLLMENT, BY SCHOOL, BY GRADE**

SCHOOL	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	UG	TOTAL
Intermediate M.S. (060)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	140	142	124	21	427
Park Avenue E.S. (070)	28	81	119	91	81	84	99	0	0	0	31	614
Freehold Learning Center E.S. (040)	29	97	98	96	78	79	73	0	0	0	37	587
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1628</b>

**PROJECTED ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL, BY GRADE - FOR 2019-20**

SCHOOL	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	UG	TOTAL
Intermediate M.S. (060)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	190	168	147	22	527
Park Avenue E.S. (070)	23	82	100	93	80	78	95	0	0	0	32	585
Freehold Learning Center E.S. (040)	24	98	83	98	77	73	70	0	0	0	38	563
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1674</b>

<b>TABLE 3 PROJECTIONS FOR 2019-20</b>												
	47	180	183	192	158	151	166	190	168	147	92	1674