

## What's to gain, what's at risk?

The continued excellence of the Wayland Public Schools requires an expansion and modernization of Wayland High School.

Failing to act will lead to degradation of that education and the value that it adds to the community.

### The Wayland School Committee

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# Wayland High School: Capacity Study

## Q: Why are we looking at a renovation and expansion project for the High School to be completed by 2007?

As the companion document and presentation, "Wayland High School: The Next 50 Years," outlines, the current high school will not meet the needs placed on it by the system for three key reasons: (1) physical plant shortcomings, (2) increasing enrollment, and (3) changing educational imperatives. That said, an important question concerns school capacity.

## Q: Wayland High School held a peak enrollment of 1,292 students in 1969-1970. Why will it be over capacity at 1,000?

There has been a significant loss of teaching space over the last thirty years.

1. Six medium-sized classrooms converted for other use (capacity 25 each)
  - S1 became the English office
  - S7 became a computer lab
  - S9 is now used for special education
  - ME3 became a computer lab
  - Engineering drawing became the fine arts office
  - H11 became the social studies office
2. Three small classrooms converted for other use (capacity 10-12 each)
  - S2 is now used for storage and conferences
  - S8 is now used for special education
  - S12 is now used for science and computer storage
3. One lecture hall converted to the special education suite
  - L35 (capacity 50-75)
4. Industrial arts shop converted (capacity 15-20)
  - Now used for special education and yearbook
5. Educational classroom use changed (capacity down 3-5 students each)
  - Class sizes are smaller
  - Technology takes up space
  - Special education requires more space

## Q: What is the impact of the above on capacity?

At 1,292 students in 1969-1970, the high school was over-crowded. The changes outlined above have reduced the capacity of the school by almost 400 students in the intervening 30-plus years. 900 students now will feel like 1,292 did then. The current enrollment of 829 students will grow past 900 to 1,000 by 2007 based only on children currently in the system.

Schools operate best at about 85% of capacity—if no action is taken, WHS will not only exceed the 85% mark, it will reach unprecedented overcrowding in 2007 with no room for future growth over the next 50 years.

**Q: How can I get more information?**

Please visit the School Committee website at [www.waylandschoolcommittee.org](http://www.waylandschoolcommittee.org) for more detailed information, and you can also review the presentation about the project prepared by the School Committee.

