



## Conclusion

The enrollment projection indicates a decline in the overall student population of 145 students from the 2005-06 school year to the 2015-16 school year. The decrease in enrollment can be attributed to student migration from ACPS. Survival ratios show that for most grades, the retention of students from one grade to the next is less than 100% with the lowest survival rate at 52.7% from birth to kindergarten.

When looking ahead at the build-out of Alexandria City, it is estimated that ACPS can expect an additional 740 students from the current planned residential development when all projects have been completed by the year 2008. This is an estimate of the additional students that ACPS can expect from current residential projects as they are occupied. Also, the Potomac Yard/Potomac Greens area is undergoing development plans. These plans are currently unapproved therefore a reasonable projection cannot be determined at this time. However, if development plans are approved, the Potomac Yard/Potomac Greens area has the potential to yield an additional 198 students. As mentioned earlier, a factor that is not accounted for is the phenomenon of students leaving ACPS in older neighborhoods. Another phenomenon is the inter-district migration of students. Further analysis of neighborhoods and historical enrollment is needed to determine the rate of loss of students in mature areas of ACPS. Also, there are approximately 10 acres of vacant land located throughout ACPS. However, this total vacant land area is composed of small areas that are not conducive for significant development. Therefore, the vacant land areas will not have a significant impact on potential student enrollment.

The build-out analysis shows that while there is new development with potential to yield students, declining enrollment projections due to lower incoming class enrollments and low survival ratios will offset the potential student yields.

The focus of the build-out analysis is to determine the gross student potential when there is 100% student retention and in migration of families with children. Though developments are scheduled to be complete by the year 2008, occupancy may not occur for many years. In turn, the number of students in these developments will most likely gradually increase.

Enrollment projections take into account historic and current variables such as enrollment, birth rates and building permit data. These projections are based on trends projected into future years.

When determining student potential for the future, a combination of the enrollment projections and build-out analysis should be considered.

It is important for ACPS to revisit this study and possibly update it should any changes regarding development occur. It is recommended that this document be reviewed on an annual basis to determine how more recent growth and enrollment trends will impact both the enrollment and build-out projections.

DeJONG is pleased to have had the opportunity to provide ACPS with enrollment projection and build-out services. We hope this document will provide the necessary information to make informed decisions about the future of the Alexandria City Public Schools.