

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

100 Walnut Street, Newtonville, MA 02460

AREA CODE (617) 559-9025

Memorandum

TO: David Fleishman, Superintendent

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: April 22, 2013

RE: 2012-13 Non-Public School Enrollments

School age children residing in Newton are attending non-public schools at a rate of 18.4% in 2012-13, a decline from last year when 18.9% of school age children attended non-public schools. There are a total of 2,752 students in non-public schools this year while there were 2,782 non-public school students in 2011-12, a net decrease of 30 students. This decline in enrollment by students in non-public schools has occurred in the same year when Newton’s public school student population has increased by 248 students.

A history is presented below of the number and percentage of students enrolled in non-public schools, shown in Figures 1 and 2.

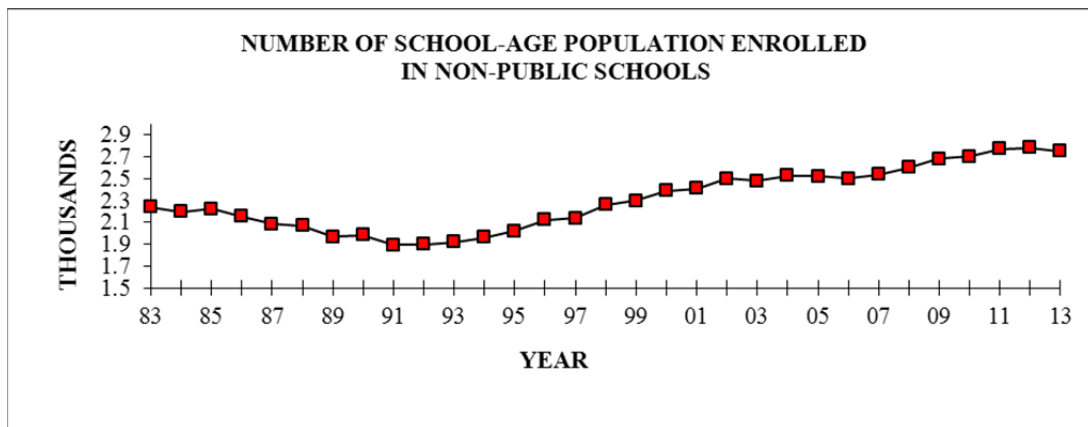


FIGURE 1

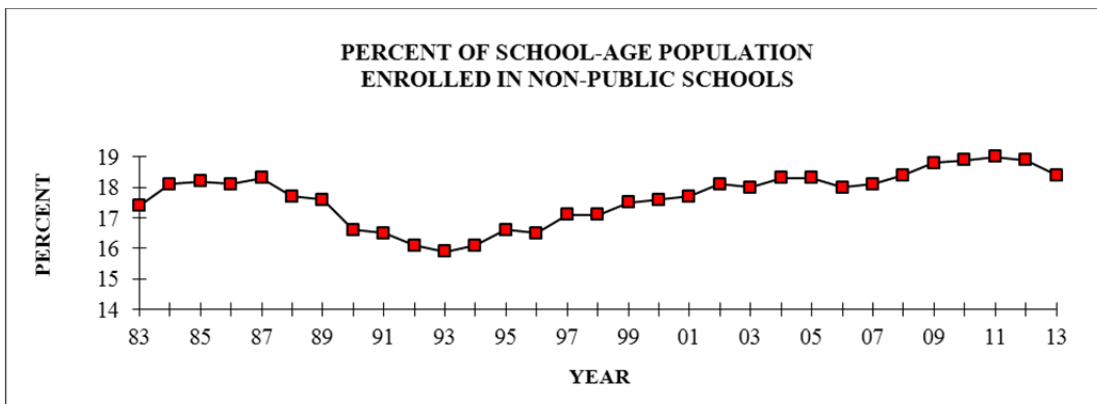


FIGURE 2

A census of non-public school students is conducted each year, as required by Massachusetts law, and is useful in gaining a comprehensive understanding of the school attendance of Newton’s school-age population who, in addition to attending Newton’s elementary, middle and high schools, are attending private independent schools, private special education schools, other public schools, charter schools or are home schooled. *Special education students placed out by Newton Public Schools are included in the census.* The following chart shows the breakdown of non-public school attendance by type of school in 2012-13.

PERCENT OF NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY TYPE OF SCHOOL

Special Education Collaborative	Charter School	Other Public School	Home Schooled	In-State Private School	Out-of-State Private School
<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	97%	1%

The remainder of the report examines non-public school enrollment at the three grade levels and by school district.

The percentage of the school-age population attending non-public schools at the elementary, middle and high school grade levels is illustrated in Figure 3 below. There is a consistent history of higher rates of enrollment at non-public schools at the secondary grade levels (6-12) where 21% of the school age population is enrolled in non-public schools this year. Elementary school students are enrolled in non-public schools at a rate of 16%, representing an increase from last year of 37 students. At the high school level, the percentage of students enrolled in non-public schools dropped from 22% to 20%. This represents a decrease of 71 high school students. This year, middle school students are enrolled in non-public schools at the highest rate (21%) of the three grade levels.

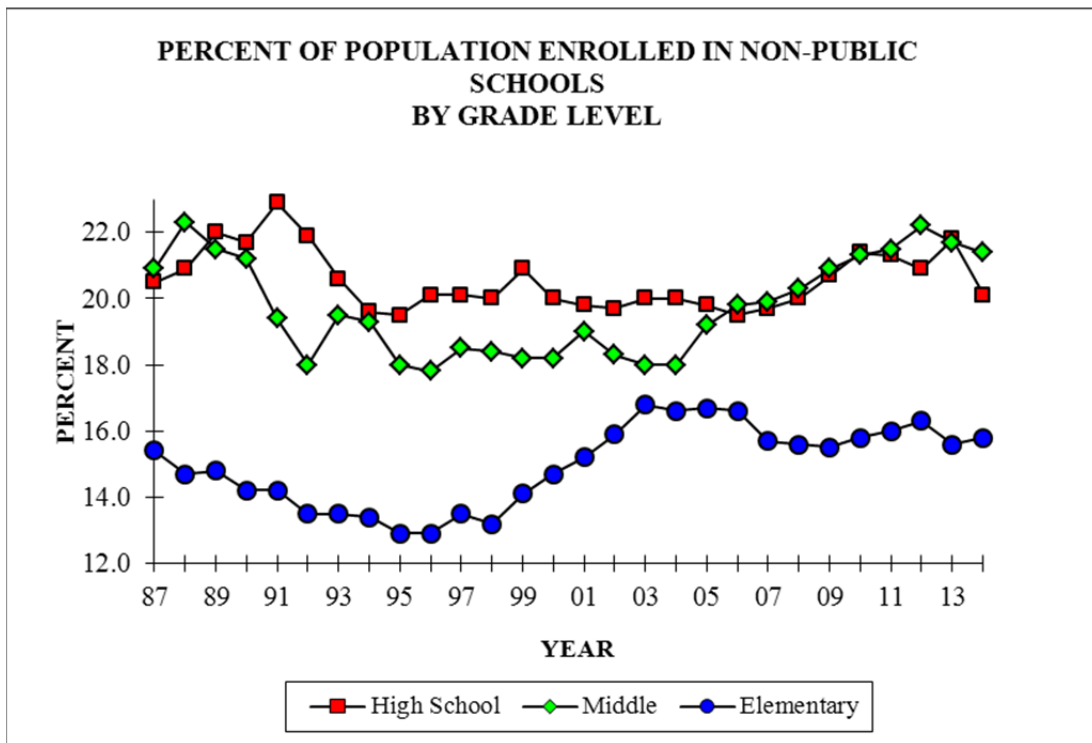


FIGURE 3

The following chart shows the non-public school enrollment rates of students in the Newton North and Newton South districts since 2005-06. This year, both Newton South and Newton North districted students are attending non-public schools at a lower rate as compared to last year. Note that the Newton South district's non-public school population is at its lowest level in eight years.

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
North High	17.8%	18.4%	19.4%	20.1%	19.4%	18.7%	20.3%	18.9%
South High	21.8%	21.9%	22.0%	22.7%	23.3%	23.2%	23.4%	21.5%

There are several tables that follow at the end of this document. Table 1 shows non-public school enrollment by grade and Table 2 presents the information further delineated by districted school. Highlights are as follows:

- Compared to last year, the elementary school grade level has increased enrollment in non-public schools of 37 students.
- There are 67 fewer secondary school students enrolled in non-public schools.
- There are 186 kindergarten students enrolled in non-public schools, an increase of 38 students over the prior year that parallels the increased kindergarten enrollment seen in the public schools.
- Grade 6 and Grade 9, both transition years in Newton, show the largest year over year decreases in the number of students enrolled at non-public schools, -32 students and -56 students respectively.
- Nine elementary school districts have non-public school enrollment that is greater than 15% of the school age children residing in the district. Six elementary school districts have lower rates of enrollment ranging from 4% to 15%.
- The largest change in enrollment is seen at the secondary level at Newton South where there are 45 fewer students recorded in the 2012-13 non-public school census.

Table 3 shows Newton Public School students who are placed out of district due to the special education needs of the students. These students are included in the census of non-public school students and attend private schools, special education collaborative programs or other public schools.

TABLE 1
NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AS PERCENT OF
TOTAL SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION
BY GRADE

Grade	2011-12		2012-13		Change from Prior Year (N, %)	
	N	% of School-Age Population	N	% of School-Age Population		
K	148	14.2%	186	16.6%	38	25.7%
1	160	14.5%	160	14.6%	0	0.0%
2	179	15.8%	154	13.8%	-25	-14.0%
3	195	17.4%	184	15.7%	-11	-5.6%
4	176	14.7%	203	17.7%	27	15.3%
5	194	17.0%	202	16.5%	8	4.1%
Total	1,052	15.6%	1,089	15.8%	37	3.5%
6	251	21.4%	219	19.5%	-32	-12.7%
7	260	22.9%	259	21.9%	-1	-0.4%
8	226	20.7%	263	22.8%	37	16.4%
9	258	22.5%	202	17.7%	-56	-21.7%
10	228	19.8%	246	21.4%	18	7.9%
11	237	21.5%	230	20.0%	-7	-3.0%
12	270	23.3%	244	21.3%	-26	-9.6%
Total	1,730	21.7%	1,663	20.7%	-67	-3.9%
Grand Total	2,782	18.9%	2,752	18.4%	-30	-1.1%

Note: Students that are special education and beyond grade 12 are reported as grade 12.

TABLE 2

**NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS
AS PERCENT OF TOTAL SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION
BY DISTRICTED SCHOOL AND GRADE LEVEL**

Elementary District	2011-12		Grade						2012-13	
	N	% of School Age Population	K	1	2	3	4	5	N	% of School Age Population
Angier	70	15.6%	12	14	9	13	13	12	73	15.2%
Bowen	109	19.7%	22	14	9	17	11	21	94	16.5%
Burr	19	4.4%	4	3	2	2	2	4	17	3.9%
Cabot	88	16.7%	17	13	10	18	20	18	96	18.6%
Countryside	80	13.5%	12	7	10	20	22	16	87	15.4%
Franklin	30	7.0%	6	4	3	7	8	6	34	7.9%
Horace Mann	49	11.2%	8	7	10	3	4	9	41	9.4%
Lincoln-Eliot	40	11.2%	2	8	6	5	4	4	29	8.3%
Mason-Rice	123	21.9%	21	23	19	22	26	32	143	24.6%
Memorial-Spaulding	107	18.9%	17	16	27	14	24	18	116	20.0%
Peirce	89	21.8%	17	8	12	14	19	17	87	20.5%
Underwood	61	17.2%	8	13	8	13	7	14	63	16.9%
Ward	119	30.7%	23	22	20	25	30	15	135	31.0%
Williams	27	8.3%	7	2	2	4	6	5	26	7.9%
Zervas	41	11.3%	10	6	7	7	7	11	48	12.9%
Total Elementary	1,052	15.6%	186	160	154	184	203	202	1,089	15.8%
						6	7	8		
Bigelow Middle	157	22.8%				42	61	58	161	23.3%
Brown Middle	220	24.5%				62	82	78	222	24.1%
Day Middle	182	17.7%				68	55	63	186	17.5%
Oak Hill Middle	178	22.5%				47	61	64	172	21.8%
Total Middle School	737	21.7%				219	259	263	741	21.4%
					9	10	11	12		
Newton North	477	20.3%			105	121	107	118	451	18.9%
Newton South	516	23.4%			97	125	123	126	471	21.5%
Total High School	993	21.8%			202	246	230	244	922	20.1%
GRAND TOTAL	2,782	18.9%							2,752	18.4%

Note: Students that are special education and beyond grade 12 are reported as grade 12.

Note: Students residing in buffer zones are assigned a districted school according to the attendance percentages of currently enrolled buffer zone resident students.

TABLE 3

**SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS
TUITIONED-OUT TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BY DISTRICTED SCHOOL AND GRADE LEVEL**

Elementary	Total As of 4/1/2012	Grade							Total As of 4/1/2013
		PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	
Angier	2		1				1	1	3
Bowen	1							1	1
Burr	0								0
Cabot	1							2	2
Countryside	5				1	3		2	6
Franklin	1						1		1
Horace Mann	3		1						1
Lincoln-Eliot	1	1							1
Mason-Rice	1				1		1	1	3
Memorial-Spauding	1							1	1
Peirce	0								0
Underwood	0								0
Ward	1						1	1	2
Williams	3								0
Zervas	0				1			1	2
Total Elementary	20	1	2	0	3	3	4	10	23
						6	7	8	
Bigelow Middle	6					3	3	5	11
Brown Middle	5						3	1	4
Day Middle	15					2	3	5	10
Oak Hill Middle	8					1	5	1	7
Total Middle School	34					6	14	12	32
					9	10	11	12	
Newton North	59				7	12	12	26	57
Newton South	37				7	11	8	17	43
Total High School	96				14	23	20	43	100
Grand Total	150								155

Note: Students that are special education and beyond grade 12 are reported as grade 12.