



Section Summary

Educational resources within the study area are exceptionally well coordinated and prepared for growth associated with increases in troops and the overall populations. The challenge facing each district will be financially constrained budgets and the inability to move forward with capacity projects necessary to support new students.

The study area supports four public school districts (Bryan, Liberty, Long, and Tattnall) and each faces capacity challenges in the near term – ranging from system-wide need for growth to a local unit need for space – and each must continue to take steps to accommodate growing populations of students.

Growth and Assessment Analysis Findings

Existing Conditions

During the past five years, Bryan and Long County School Districts have seen increases in student population of approximately twenty percent (20%). Tattnall County School District's growth during that same period was observed at approximately ten percent (10%). Student populations in Liberty County Schools declined approximately ten percent (10%) during that period despite the cumulative enrollment at the high school level remaining generally constant. While each district requires unique strategic planning to address short-term and long-term issues, all districts will be required to undertake some action to accommodate future growth.

Bryan County

Bryan County Schools consist of nine education facilities that include five elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. The facilities segregate the elementary grades into primary schools for the early years and elementary for the later years of elementary learning.

The schools in south Bryan County have seen significant growth during the past five years; however, the majority of the school population increases in the region are attributable to the growth in the Richmond Hill service area (approximately 1,109 of the 1,175 student noted above). Table 4.2 shows the net change in school enrollments as well as the current number of portable classrooms in use at each location, with the majority of both being located in the Richmond Hill service area of the district.

In the fall of 2009 the local educational agency (LEA) began construction of a new 210,000 square foot middle school in Richmond Hill, to accommodate 93 new classrooms for 1,600 students. The facility is expected to open for the 2011-2012 school year and will replace the existing middle school. The existing structure is forecasted to become the 9th grade facility to relieve the growth pressures at Richmond Hill High School. Doing so would alleviate the growth pressures in that portion of the LEA in the near term, although it is likely that additional facilities will be necessary to address overcrowding issues at the elementary level.



Table 4.1 - Bryan County School Enrollment, 2005 to 2010

Bryan County Schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Bryan County Elementary School*	375	375	381	429	479	462
Bryan County High School*	514	518	524	510	519	518
Bryan County Middle School*	443	414	432	422	383	408
Dr. George Washington Carver Elementary School	646	626	693	725	770	826
Lanier Primary School*	409	442	437	423	425	419
Richmond Hill Elementary School	619	682	720	772	825	852
Richmond Hill High School	1224	1280	1296	1392	1455	1538
Richmond Hill Middle School	953	982	1063	1098	1167	1213
Richmond Hill Primary School	664	682	693	720	787	786
BRYAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	5847	6001	6239	6491	6810	7022

Source: FSGMP, 2009 - "North Bryan" schools are labeled with an asterisk (*)

Table 4.2 - Bryan County Net Change in School Enrollment

	Change 2004-2005 to 2009-2010	Portable Classrooms
Bryan County Elementary School*	87	2
Bryan County High School*	4	8
Bryan County Middle School*	(135)	0
Dr. George Washington Carver Elementary School	180	0
Lanier Primary School*	10	0
Richmond Hill Elementary School	233	0
Richmond Hill High School	314	26
Richmond Hill Middle School	260	6
Richmond Hill Primary School	122	0
BRYAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	1175	42

Source: FSGMP, 2009 - "North Bryan" schools are labeled with an asterisk (*)

Liberty County

Liberty County Schools consist of 13 education facilities that include eight elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools. Ten of the schools are located within the City of Hinesville.

The district has seen a general decline in the overall enrollment and at each of the specific units. Such a decline indicates adequate physical space to accommodate increased student enrollment resulting from troop assignments or general population growth.

Some school service geographic areas, however, contain few or no development projects, while others have significant pipeline development and can be expected to generate future students, when completed. Specifically, the school aged children projected in the proposed development in the Liberty and Waldo Pafford Elementary school service areas exceed the available capacity of the facilities.

The existing middle schools and high schools have adequate physical capacity to accommodate growth well into the future.

Table 4.3 - Liberty County Enrollment 2004-2010, by Facility

Liberty County Schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Bradwell Institute	1886	1931	1864	1880	1935	1883
Button Gwinnett Elementary School	629	561	517	560	581	534
Frank Long Elementary School	623	589	596	580	627	608
Jordye Bacon Elementary School	511	517	470	549	582	472
Joseph Martin Elementary School	609	570	574	535	525	538
Lewis Frasier Middle School	842	894	849	893	916	902
Liberty County High School	1255	1286	1293	1305	1246	1204
Liberty Elementary School	745	779	716	651	696	664
Lyman Hall Elementary School	556	554	512	584	623	498
Midway Middle School	917	843	881	803	780	708
Snelson-Golden Middle School	1092	1098	1045	940	843	740
Taylors Creek Elementary School	732	674	668	633	638	674
Waldo Pafford Elementary School	645	636	614	529	535	563
LIBERTY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	11042	10932	10599	10442	10527	9988

Source: FSGMP, 2009

Table 4.4 - Liberty County Enrollment 2004-2010, by Level of Education

Liberty County Schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Elementary School	5050	4880	4667	4621	4807	4551
Middle School	2851	2835	2775	2636	2539	2350
High School	3141	3217	3157	3185	3181	3087
LIBERTY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	11042	10932	10599	10442	10527	9988

Source: FSGMP, 2009

Long County

The Long County School LEA is the smallest in the region, consisting of three facilities: an elementary school serving kindergarten through 3rd grade (K-3), a middle school serving 4th grade to 8th grade (4-8), and a high school that serves 9th grade through 12th grade (9-12).

There are currently six portable classrooms in use at the elementary school and ten used at the Middle School. In accordance with the Educational Facilities Construction Plan, the LEA's student projections predict continued increases in enrollments into the future.

The district has begun work on a six classroom expansion to the Elementary School, as well as an expansion to its cafeteria. However, this expansion will merely enlarge the facility to accommodate the existing student enrollment numbers. Based upon the current projected enrollment in FY 2010, the elementary school will continue to be undersized to support the student population.

The majority of the new development is located in the northwest portion of the county. If current development trends continue, the growth could warrant consideration of a second elementary school in that portion of the district. The LEA also projects the construction of a new 122,550 square foot high

school to open in 2013-2014, subject to the approval of the State funding plan and other local funding sources. The new facility will allow a reallocation of space by shifting grades to create a 6th to 8th grade Middle School in the existing High School structure, allowing a proportionate shift in the lower grades to reoccupy available space and reduce dependency on portable classrooms.

Table 4.5 - Long County Enrollment 2004-2010, by Facility

Long County Schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Long County High School	538	546	539	602	629	674
Smiley Elementary School	695	702	719	783	863	842
Walker Middle School	818	797	805	819	902	925
LONG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	2051	2045	2063	2204	2394	2441

Source: FSGMP, 2009

Table 4.6 - Long County Changes in Enrollment 2004-2010, by Facility & Portable Classrooms

	Change 2004-2005 to 2009-2010	Portable Classrooms
Long County High School	130	0
Smiley Elementary School	147	6
Walker Middle School	107	10
LONG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	384	16

Source: FSGMP, 2009

Tattnall County

Tattnall County Schools consist of seven education facilities that include three elementary schools, three middle schools and a high school. Table 4.7 shows the annual enrollment at each school.

The district has seen moderate growth in enrollment during the period examined and the trend is expected to increase into the near term. There are no portable classrooms within the district and no existing capacity challenges at any of the specific units. The district is observed to have several facilities that are projected to reach capacity in the near term (3-4 years) and should be monitored to ensure proactive solutions are defined.

Table 4.7 - Tattnall County Enrollment 2004-2010, by Facility

Tattnall County Schools	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Collins Elementary School	285	288	289	288	309	306
Collins Middle School	156	161	121	133	135	145
Glennville Elementary School	620	626	630	676	689	746
Glennville Middle School	321	303	311	310	331	327
Reidsville Elementary School	536	571	609	628	642	657
Reidsville Middle School	317	311	291	259	291	283
Tattnall County High School	920	897	885	918	903	966
TATTNALL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	3155	3157	3136	3212	3300	3430

Source: Tattnall County Board of Education & FSGMP, 2009

Private Schools

There are seven private schools operating within the study area with enrollment ranging from 10 students to 280 students and a cumulative total of approximately 500 students. An additional 500 students residing in the study area attend private schools outside the four-county region.

Department of Defense Schools

The Department of Defense Domestic Dependant Elementary and Secondary School (DDESS) operates three elementary schools on-post at Fort Stewart, for those dependants living on-post and attending kindergarten to 6th grade (K-6). Students in higher grades attend middle school or high school at the designated Liberty County School District facility.

Both Britton and Diamond provide 33 classrooms, while Kessler has 24 classrooms. DDESS is currently beginning the design process for a new elementary school of 450 students to support the existing schools and provide space for further expansion if necessary. Construction should start in one year and take two years to complete. DDESS is also planning for future replacement of Britton ES and Diamond ES in approximately four to five years, but this still awaits congressional approval and funding, and thus is subject to change.

	Sep-07	Sep-08	Jan-09	Mar-10
Britton Elementary School	740	755	775	659
Diamond Elementary School	704	764	757	738
Kessler Elementary School	496	558	532	468
FORT STEWART SCHOOLS	1940	2077	2064	1865

Source: DDESS Facility Engineering & FSGMP, 2010

Educational Facilities Capacity Summary

The Existing Conditions report (a summary of which is provided above) described the current availability of education facilities in the study area. While some schools are already at capacity and/or use mobile classrooms to accommodate students, several have spare capacity which new populations can utilize. The capacities of these schools (in 2009) are summarized in the tables below. For the purpose of this analysis, the use of mobile classrooms was considered to be a capacity issue, as ideally no students would be housed in temporary buildings. Student populations in mobile classrooms, then, were counted towards capacity need. Schools not listed did not report any capacity issues. Any known school development projects are also listed in terms of capacity. Capacity information for Fort Stewart schools was unavailable at the time of writing and so has not been figured into this analysis.

	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Source
North Bryan County (including City of Pembroke)			Bryan County School System Local Facilities Plan & FSGMP, 2009. Calculation of student spaces based on available classrooms multiplied by GA Dept of Education maximum class size.
Lanier Primary	-	92	
Bryan County Elementary	-	115	
Bryan County High School	-	64	
South Bryan County (including City of Richmond Hill)			
Richmond Hill Primary	-	299	
Richmond Hill Elementary	-	184	
George Washington Carver Elementary	46	-	
Richmond Hill Middle School	-	630	
Richmond Hill High School	32	-	

Table 4.10 - Bryan County - Upcoming School Projects		
	Extra Capacity	Notes/Source
New Richmond Hill Middle School	1,600	To replace existing middle school; expected to open 2011-12. With existing capacity at the middle school at 1,213 and current need at 630 places above capacity, the total need is 1,843 student places. This indicates an additional 243 middle school places will still be needed. Source: FSGMP; AECOM calculations
Richmond Hill Elementary School	-	Will become 9th grade facility to relieve pressure at Richmond Hill High School. Source: FSGMP

Table 4.11 - Liberty County School Capacity (Student Places)			
	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Source
Greater Liberty County			Liberty County Board of Education & FSGMP, 2009. Capacity calculation based on functional high capacity minus regular enrollment.
Liberty County Elementary School (Midway)	98	-	
Midway Middle School (Midway)	242	-	
Liberty County High School (Unincorporated)	954	-	
City of Hinesville			
Bradwell Institute (High School)	265	-	
Button Gwinnett Elementary School	141	-	
Frank Long Elementary School	148	-	
Jordye Martin Elementary School	177	-	
Joseph Martin Elementary School	115	-	
Lewis Frasier Middle School	245	-	
Lyman Hall Elementary School	105	-	
Snelson-Golden Middle School	446	-	
Taylor's Creek Elementary School	122	-	
Waldo Pafford Elementary School	134	-	

Table 4.12 - Long County School Capacity (Student Places)			
	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Source
Smiley Elementary School	-	125	Long County Board of Education & FSGMP, 2009. Capacity calculation based on functional capacity minus regular enrollment.
Walker Middle School	-	230	

	Extra Capacity	Notes/Source
Expansion of Elementary School	Additional 6 classrooms (equating to approximately 138 student places)	To accommodate current enrollment overages. Source: Long County School System. Approximation of student places based on average elementary classroom size.
High School - New Construction	725	Long County High School currently at capacity. Middle and high schools currently combined in one facility. New high school will be separate facility, yielding 3 facilities total. When new high school is built, middle school will expand to take up vacated high school classrooms. Grades 4-5 (considered part of middle school in Long County) will move into existing classrooms occupied by grades 7-8, relieving current capacity issues with middle school. To open in 2013-14 depending on availability of funding. Source: FSGMP, Long County School Sytem.

	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Source
Collins Elementary School	14	-	Tattnall County Board of Education & FSGMP, 2009. Capacity calculation based on functional capacity minus regular enrollment.
Collins Middle School	25	-	
Glennville Elementary School	-	26	
Glennville Middle School	43	-	
Reidsville Elementary School	3	-	
Reidsville Middle School	87	-	
Tattnall County High School	14	-	

	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Notes
Bryan County			
Primary/Elementary	46	690	Middle school need takes into consideration existing enrollment (1,213) and additional demand (630), plus planned facility capacity (1,600), which yields remaining need of 243 places
Middle	-	243	
High	32	64	
Liberty County			
Elementary	1040	-	-
Middle	933	-	
High	1219	-	

	Extra Capacity	Needed Capacity	Notes
Long County			
Elementary	-	-	No apparent capacity issues; new construction planned to satisfy current need.
Middle	-	-	
High	-	-	
Tattnall County			
Elementary	17	26	-
Middle	155	-	
High	14	-	

These population projections were modeled in relation to standards for service provision. In addition to calculating the raw number of students anticipated as a result of growth, the number of classes needed to accommodate the students was deduced based on average class sizes across all four study area counties.

Growth Analysis

An analysis of future demand for educational programs and facilities was undertaken based on OMB population forecasts and existing standards of service (see Section 7 for further detail on the analysis process). As with all social infrastructure, future demand for educational facilities is based on changes in population. Tables 4.16 through 4.22 consequently show the likely future demographic population profile arising from new populations moving into and being born in the region by age cohorts, particularly important when modeling future impacts on education and childcare. The analysis includes population figures for all four counties in the region and the cities of Hinesville and Richmond Hill. The figures for Liberty County (containing Hinesville) and Bryan County (containing Richmond Hill) are inclusive of their respective cities' populations. Growth arising from Fort Stewart alone is also presented below.

For the purpose of this analysis, these population figures have been adjusted to account for military children seeking education (and child care) on post, rather than in the community. The population numbers below, therefore, reflect gross population by age cohort minus military dependents of the same age cohort. As education on post is only offered up to 6th grade – meaning subsequent grade levels will go off-post for educational needs – only ages 3 through 11 have been adjusted to reflect military impact.

These population projections were modeled in relation to standards for service provision. In addition to calculating the raw number of students anticipated as a result of growth, the number of classes needed to accommodate the students was deduced based on average class sizes across all four study area counties. Students were broken down into classes to understand school provision in an incremental way. For example, a new school would not be called for if only three new classes of elementary school children were anticipated during a certain period of growth; however, providing a portable classroom or school extension (if the example numbers were larger) might be an appropriate recommendation in the interim.

Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	539	728	945	1251
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	1658	3056	3542	4134
Middle School (11-13)	153	1412	1775	1955
High School (14-17)	234	397	235	2564

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures. Bryan County figures inclusive of Richmond Hill population counts.

Table 4.17 - Liberty County Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children				
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	983	1139	1331	1665
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	3021	4995	5274	5757
Middle School (11-13)	262	2284	2623	2676
High School (14-17)	406	453	3466	3477

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures. Liberty County figures inclusive of Hinesville population counts.

Table 4.18 - Long County Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children				
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	161	192	225	290
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	494	862	906	1005
Middle School (11-13)	19	391	450	464
High School (14-17)	37	48	595	603

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures.

Table 4.19 - Tattnall County Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children				
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	318	365	418	534
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	977	1672	1724	1886
Middle School (11-13)	29	757	857	871
High School (14-17)	60	66	1134	1131

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures.

Table 4.20 - Hinesville Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children				
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	146	134	141	219
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	703	1412	1303	1320
Middle School (11-13)	(66)	809	856	788
High School (14-17)	44	(30)	1234	1120

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures.

Table 4.21 - Richmond Hill Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children				
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Pre-K (3-4)	129	157	200	273
Primary/Elementary School (5-10)	396	707	792	927
Middle School (11-13)	9	320	393	430
High School (14-17)	21	33	520	561

NB: Military children have been subtracted from gross population figures.

Table 4.22 - Fort Stewart Population Growth (Cumulative) - Children		
Grades/Ages	Phase 1	Phase 2
	2007-2010	2010-2013
Pre-K (3-4)	1416	1668
Primary/Elementary School (5-11)	177	333

As each county in the region approaches education differently, standards used regarding average class sizes varied from county to county. In Liberty, Long, and Tattnall Counties, average class sizes were directly supplied by the school districts. In other cases, enrollment figures were divided by the number of available classrooms to yield class sizes. In instances where no local standard for average class size was available, the State of Georgia’s Department of Education maximum class sizes were used. The standards ultimately used to generate classroom demands will be presented in the Technical Appendix.

Future Public School Demand

Demand for public school places was calculated using the population projections above and the service standards presented in the Technical Appendix. A discounting factor of 2.74% (calculated by FSGMP based on original research) was applied for those students likely to seek education at private schools. Surplus capacity at schools was also taken into consideration to produce net demand for school places. Finally, net demand for student places was divided by average classroom sizes, presented in the



Technical Appendix, to yield the number of new classrooms required to meet the needs arising from the new population. The resulting number of new student places and classrooms required to accommodate future growth are presented in the tables below.

A description of delivery options to meet this demand is provided at the end of this section in Tables 4.28-4.31.

Table 4.23 - Bryan County Public School Demand Arising from New Population

	By Phase 1	By Phase 2	By Phase 3	By Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Primary/Elementary School				
Primary/Elementary School Places (gross)	1658	3056	3542	4134
Primary/Elementary School Places (net)	2257	3617	4089	4664
Primary/Elementary School Classes	83	133	153	177
Middle School				
Middle School Places (gross)	153	1142	1775	1955
Middle School Places (net)	392	1616	1969	2144
Middle School Classes	13	55	67	73
High School				
High School Places (gross)	234	397	2359	2564
High School Places (net)	260	418	2326	2526
High School Classes	8	13	73	79

NB: Net calculation = gross model outputs - private school places - spare capacity + current need. Figures are inclusive of demand arising from Richmond Hill.

Table 4.24 - Liberty County Public School Demand Arising from New Population

	By Phase 1	By Phase 2	By Phase 3	By Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Elementary School				
Elementary School Places (gross)	3021	4995	5274	5757
Elementary School Places (net)	1898	3818	4090	4559
Elementary School Classes	191	286	300	327
Middle School				
Middle School Places (gross)	262	2284	2623	2676
Middle School Places (net)	(678)	1289	1618	1670
Middle School Classes	(35)	69	86	89
High School				
High School Places (gross)	406	453	3466	3477
High School Places (net)	(824)	(778)	2152	2163
High School Classes	(26)	(24)	67	68

NB: Net calculation = gross model outputs - private school places - spare capacity + current need. Figures are inclusive of demand arising from Hinesville.

Table 4.25 - Long County Public School Demand Arising from New Population

	By Phase 1	By Phase 2	By Phase 3	By Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Elementary School				
Elementary School Places (gross)	494	862	906	1005
Elementary School Places (net)	481	838	881	977
Elementary School Classes	24	37	39	43
Middle School				
Middle School Places (gross)	19	391	450	464
Middle School Places (net)	19	380	437	452
Middle School Classes	1	14	16	17
High School				
High School Places (gross)	37	48	595	603
High School Places (net)	36	47	578	587
High School Classes	1	2	21	21

NB: Net calculation = gross model outputs - private school places - spare capacity + current need.

Table 4.26 - Tattnall County Public School Demand Arising from New Population

	By Phase 1	By Phase 2	By Phase 3	By Phase 4
	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2025	2025-2030
Elementary School				
Elementary School Places (gross)	977	1672	1724	1886
Elementary School Places (net)	960	1636	1686	1843
Elementary School Classes	49	79	81	89
Middle School				
Middle School Places (gross)	29	757	857	871
Middle School Places (net)	(127)	582	679	692
Middle School Classes	(5)	25	29	30
High School				
High School Places (gross)	60	66	1134	1131
High School Places (net)	45	51	1089	1086
High School Classes	1	2	34	34

NB: Net calculation = gross model outputs - private school places - spare capacity + current need.

Table 4.27 - Fort Stewart School Demand Arising from New Population

	By Phase 1	By Phase 2
	2010-2015	2015-2020
Elementary School		
Elementary School Places (gross)	177	333
Elementary School Places (net)	172	324
Elementary School Classes	8	15

NB: Net calculation = gross model outputs - private school places. At the time of writing, capacity at Department of Defense schools was not available; therefore this information has not been included in the analysis.

Recommendations

Introduction

The school districts monitor enrollment constantly to ensure that an accurate census of the student population is aligned with state funding programs. Population growth, through natural increases and from additional military assigned to Fort Stewart, will create near-term capacity issues in the public school systems for all four of the districts. As the districts and communities grow in the future during a time of financial constraint, each district needs to ensure that the spaces within its existing facilities are optimized to serve future student populations.

Short-Term

Bryan County

Maintain Strategic Planning

The Richmond Hill portion of the district’s service area operates over capacity in all levels and the numerous pipeline developments that will consume the limited amount of surplus capacity created by current construction in the short term. The district’s recent strategic planning efforts forecast continued growth patterns and propose the construction of new facilities and the replacement of aging structures to serve the population. Continuing the diligent planning efforts the district has employed in recent years will be critical to the success of their future capital planning programs.

Examine Attendance Zoning

Currently, the district maintains a primary school and elementary school in each service area (north and south) to serve all students in the defined grades (K-2; 3-5 in North Bryan and K-1, 2-3, and 4-5 in Richmond Hill). The district should explore adjusting the student attendance to K-5 in a single facility and rely upon attendance zones to determine enrollment patterns. The resultant outcome could reduce transportation costs in the Richmond Hill area and allow for future building construction (for new schools) to occur in geographic areas driven by demand, rather than concentrated in the urban core.

Liberty County

Attendance Zone Analysis

The district has made adjustments to the attendance zones to balance the enrollment at its facilities to account for minor changes in the populations. However, future development patterns project significant growth in a limited number of attendance zones, which has the potential to create capacity problems in those schools, while space at other facilities goes under-utilized. The known pipeline developments in the region would allow for the district to formulate proactive plans to adjust zones based on

specific development milestones. The district needs to work closely with county planners to remain knowledgeable about active development projects and geographic locations.

Stronger Coordination with Fort Stewart is Needed

While it is not possible to predict where incoming soldiers will choose to reside, based on historical trends a significant percent will elect to reside in close proximity to the base. Military dependents living off-base and those attending 7-12th grades residing on-base attend the community public schools. The district needs to continue its efforts to be notified of incoming or outgoing personnel/dependence early enough to respond appropriately and ensure that adequate services exist to meet the needs of dependant students.

Long County

Maintain Strategic Planning

The district operates at or over capacity in all levels and the numerous pipeline developments that will consume the limited amounts of surplus capacity created by current construction in the short term. The district's recent strategic planning efforts forecast continued growth patterns and propose the construction of new facilities and the replacement of aging structures to serve the population. Continuing the diligent planning efforts the district has employed in recent years will be critical to the success of their future capital planning programs.

Monitor Ongoing Development

The majority of the new development is located in the northwest portion of the county. If current development trends continue, the growth could warrant consideration of a second elementary school in that portion of the district. The district needs to work closely with county officials to remain knowledgeable about active development projects and geographic locations.

Tattnall County

Maintain Strategic Planning

While there are not defined capacity issues within the existing facilities, and there are a limited number of pipeline developments, the majority of the facilities within the district are approaching physical capacity. The district needs to continue its proactive planning efforts to ensure solutions exist to manage future populations

Long-Term

Funding

Districts with growing student bodies face greater funding burdens because of the lag between enrollment reporting and budget allocations based on those enrollment figures. All districts face continued budget scrutiny as federal and state contributions continue to decline. Districts need to explore all available means to support funding needs that should include:

- Impact Fees on new residential development
- Diligent census of student populations to collect Federal Impact Aid funds
- Coordination with State and Federal legislators to support educational funding

Class Size and Student-Teacher Ratios

Each district should examine their current classroom enrollment and student to teacher ratios and determine if adjustments can be made to support future populations without adding physical capacity. The "maximum" classroom size varies within the study area and, in some instances, the same levels

within a district. Upon completion of the short-term capacity analysis projects, the districts need to determine if adjustment in size and student to teacher ratios can assist in managing capacity challenges

Based on the above analysis, the number of classrooms likely to be required by new growth occurring in the region by 2030 is summarized in the series of tables below. More detailed discussions will need to be undertaken with local Boards of Education to understand delivery mechanisms and how facilities may be built to satisfy future need.

Table 4.28 - Education Delivery Recommendation, 2010-2015		
	Recommended Provision	Comments
Bryan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83 primary/elementary school classes • 13 middle school classes • 8 high school classes 	The high number of primary/elementary school classes needed accounts for correcting current capacity deficits at existing schools, including phasing out mobile classrooms so students are housed in permanent school facilities. Realistically, construction of new facilities, however, may have to cross into the next phase as well. For middle schools, even with the construction of a new facility, it appears another 243 places will be needed by the end of this phase to cope with demand.
Liberty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 191 elementary school classes • No middle school classes • No high school classes 	The Existing Conditions report done as part of this study lists a number of schools in Liberty County with spare capacity, thus new middle and high school populations arising during this phase should be able to be absorbed into existing facilities. Still, high population growth for K-5 children and relatively low class sizes yield the need for a significant number of new elementary school classes.
Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 elementary classes • 1 middle school class • 1 high school class 	Stronger growth in the K-5 age groups generates the need for several new elementary classes.
Tattnall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 49 elementary classes • No middle school classes • 1 high school class 	Existing capacity in Tattnall County's middle school absorbs demand arising from growth during this phase. Stronger growth in the K-5 age groups generates the need for several new elementary classes.
Fort Stewart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 elementary school classes 	Growth arising from military children generates the need for 7 elementary school classrooms in the 2010-2013 phase of growth for Fort Stewart. Based on population figures supplied by the military and the standard of provision described above, the need for an additional 8 classrooms would have arisen between 2007 and 2010. If demand from this period has not been satisfied, the 7 classrooms required for this period may increase. However, the need for expanded space may be decreased if capacity at existing facilities exists.

Table 4.29 - Education Delivery Recommendation, 2015-2020

	Recommended Provision	Comments
Bryan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 primary/elementary school classes (133 total) 42 middle school classes (55 total) 5 high school classes (13 total) 	Continued strong growth in K-5 age groups yields the need for more new primary/elementary school classes. As the previous phase's K-5 children begin to age, they generate the need for additional middle school classes.
Liberty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 95 elementary school classes (286 total) 69 middle school classes No high school classes 	Continued strong growth in K-5 age groups yields the need for more new primary/elementary school classes. As the previous phase's K-5 children begin to age, they generate the need for additional middle school classes. Growth in the high school-aged population remains low.
Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 elementary school classes (37 total) 13 middle school classes (14 total) 1 high school class (2 total) 	The population trends for Long County mirror those of Liberty County: relatively strong growth in elementary-aged children; demand for middle school classes grows as children age; and high school-aged growth remains low.
Tattnall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 elementary school classes (79 total) 25 middle school classes 1 high school class (2 total) 	The population trends mirror those for other counties, generating the need for relatively high numbers of elementary and middle school classes but low demand for high school classes.

Table 4.30 - Education Delivery Recommendation, 2020-2025

	Recommended Provision	Comments
Bryan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 primary/elementary school classes (153 total) 12 middle school classes (67 total) 60 high school classes (73 total) 	Younger population growth begins to slacken and teenaged population growth increases in this phase, generating the need for 60 new high school classes.
Liberty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 elementary school classes (300 total) 17 middle school classes (86 total) 67 high school classes 	As with Bryan County, Younger population growth begins to slacken and teenaged population growth increases in this phase, generating the need for 67 new high school classes.
Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 elementary school classes (39 total) 2 middle school classes (16 total) 19 high school classes (21 total) 	Long County follows similar population trends for youth as cited for Bryan and Liberty Counties.
Tattnall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 elementary school classes (81 total) 4 middle school classes (29 total) 32 high school class (34 total) 	Tattnall County follows similar population trends for youth in all other counties.

Table 4.31 - Education Delivery Recommendation, 2025-2030		
	Recommended Provision	Comments
Bryan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 primary/elementary school classes (177 total) • 6 middle school classes (73 total) • 6 high school classes (79 total) 	Younger population growth remains relatively strong as older school-aged population growth stabilizes.
Liberty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 elementary school classes (327 total) • 3 middle school classes (89 total) • 1 high school class (68 total) 	Younger population growth remains relatively strong as older school-aged population growth stabilizes.
Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 elementary school classes (43 total) • 1 middle school class (17 total) • No new high school classes 	Relatively low growth across all school-aged cohorts generates little need for additional educational facilities.
Tattnall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 elementary school classes (81 total) • 1 middle school class (30 total) • No new high school classes 	Relatively low growth across all school-aged cohorts generates little need for additional educational facilities.