

Hamilton County Board of Education

Monitoring:

**Review:
Annually, in
Quarter 4**

Descriptor Term:

**Growth, Capacity, and Enrollment
Management**

Descriptor Code:

6.206

Issued Date:

12/18/25

Rescinded:

Revised:

I. AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 49-6-3102(d)¹, the Hamilton County Board of Education adopts this policy to govern attendance boundaries, enrollment management, and school capacity planning.

II. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this policy is to establish a permanent, countywide framework to ensure that student enrollment growth, residential development, and school facility capacity remain aligned in a manner that:

- Protects instructional quality
- Safeguards taxpayer resources
- Supports predictable, long-term capital planning
- Ensures equitable, transparent, and data-driven decision-making

This policy establishes a tiered capacity system, requires annual reporting, and defines district actions triggered by identified capacity thresholds.

III. ANNUAL CAPACITY AND GROWTH REPORT

A. Reporting Requirements

The Superintendent shall publish an Annual Capacity and Growth Report no later than October 1 of each year.

B. Required Contents

The report shall include, at a minimum:

1. Current enrollment by school
2. Functional capacity for each school
3. Each school's utilization rate
4. Two-year enrollment projections
5. Assignment of each school to a Growth Capacity Tier (Tier 1-3)
6. Identification of schools requiring *consideration* of:
 - a. Rezoning of future residential development
 - b. Attendance boundary adjustments
 - c. Capital or operational planning actions

IV: GROWTH CAPACITY TIER SYSTEM

Tier 3 – Stable Capacity

Definition: Schools operating at or below 85% utilization

District Actions:

- No attendance boundary adjustments considered

- Annual monitoring only

Tier 2 – Approaching Capacity

Definition: Schools operating between 85% and 95% utilization, or projected to exceed 95% utilization within 24 months.

District Actions

- Require capacity impact analysis for proposed large residential developments within the attendance zone
- Initiate preliminary boundary review analysis
- Present findings to the appropriate Board member and committee

Tier 1 – Over Capacity

Definition: Schools operating at 95% and beyond utilization

District Actions:

- Explore redirection of future residential development to adjacent zones with available capacity
- Initiate review of a formal attendance boundary adjustment process within 12 months
- Provide the Board with a capital feasibility study evaluating:
 - School additions
 - New school options
 - Capital cost assessment of any new construction

V. COORDINATION WITH COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Hamilton County Schools shall provide the County government with an updated Growth Capacity Tier map annually to support coordinated planning and development review.

VI. CAPITAL PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Designation of a school as Tier 1 or Tier 2 shall automatically trigger a review of:

- Potential additions, renovations, or new school sites
- Multi-year capital funding requirements
- Transportation implications

VII. POLICY REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed annually and updated based on enrollment trends, residential development patterns, state law, and best practices.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6.3102(d)

Cross References