

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		Rescinded:	Revised:

1 **I. AUTHORITY**

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

4 **II. PURPOSE AND INTENT**

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

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

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

14 **III. ANNUAL CAPACITY AND GROWTH REPORT**

15 **A. Reporting Requirements**

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

18 **B. Required Contents**

19 The report shall include, at a minimum:

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

29 **IV: GROWTH CAPACITY TIER SYSTEM**

30 **Tier 3 – Stable Capacity**

31 Definition: Schools operating at or below 85% utilization

32 District Actions:

33 • No attendance boundary adjustments considered

1 • Annual monitoring only

2 **Tier 2 – Approaching Capacity**

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

5 District Actions

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

10 **Tier 1 – Over Capacity**

11 Definition: Schools operating at 95% and beyond utilization

12 District Actions:

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

19 **V. COORDINATION WITH COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT|**

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

22 **VI. CAPITAL PLANNING REQUIREMENTS**

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

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

27 **VII. POLICY REVIEW**

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