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From: Adam Larsen, Assistant Superintendent

To: Board of Education

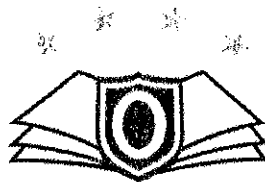
Cc: Thomas Mahoney, Superintendent

Re: September 2020 Board Report

Enrollment

With the significant disruption in in-person schooling, it seemed relevant to examine our enrollment numbers from last year to this year. A straightforward way to visualize this type of information is with a Sankey diagram, which is used to model flows. In this particular case, we are interested in observing the number of students who left the district (flowed out) and the number who entered (flowed in). In each case, there are two principal categories. On the outflow, students who transferred out through moves or a change to homeschooling are designated as having left, while those who completed grade 12 and earned a diploma are marked as graduated. On the inflow, students can either be new to the district (PK or K students) or transfers in (any other grade level).

The Sankey diagram that compares 2019-2020 enrollments with 2020-2021 follows. We experienced a decrease in enrollment of about 50 students. While 174 students left the district, only 124 new students were added.

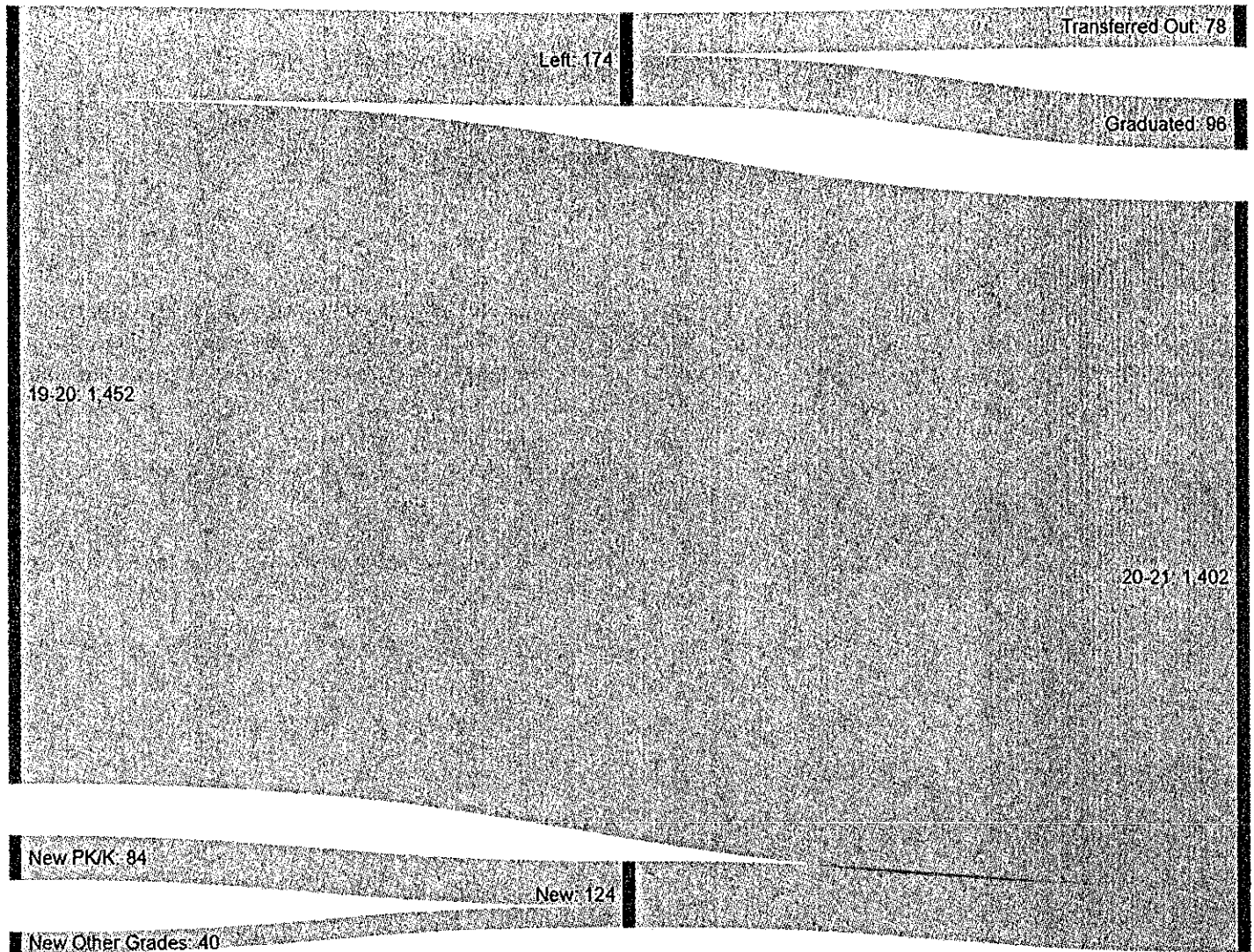


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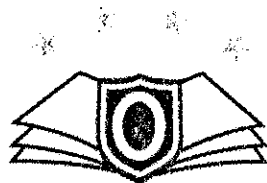
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Comparing 2019-2020 enrollments with 2020-2021



To understand whether this drop in enrollment is typical or might be slightly higher because of COVID, it is necessary to create a similar diagram that compares enrollments between 2018-2019 and 2019-2020. That diagram follows.

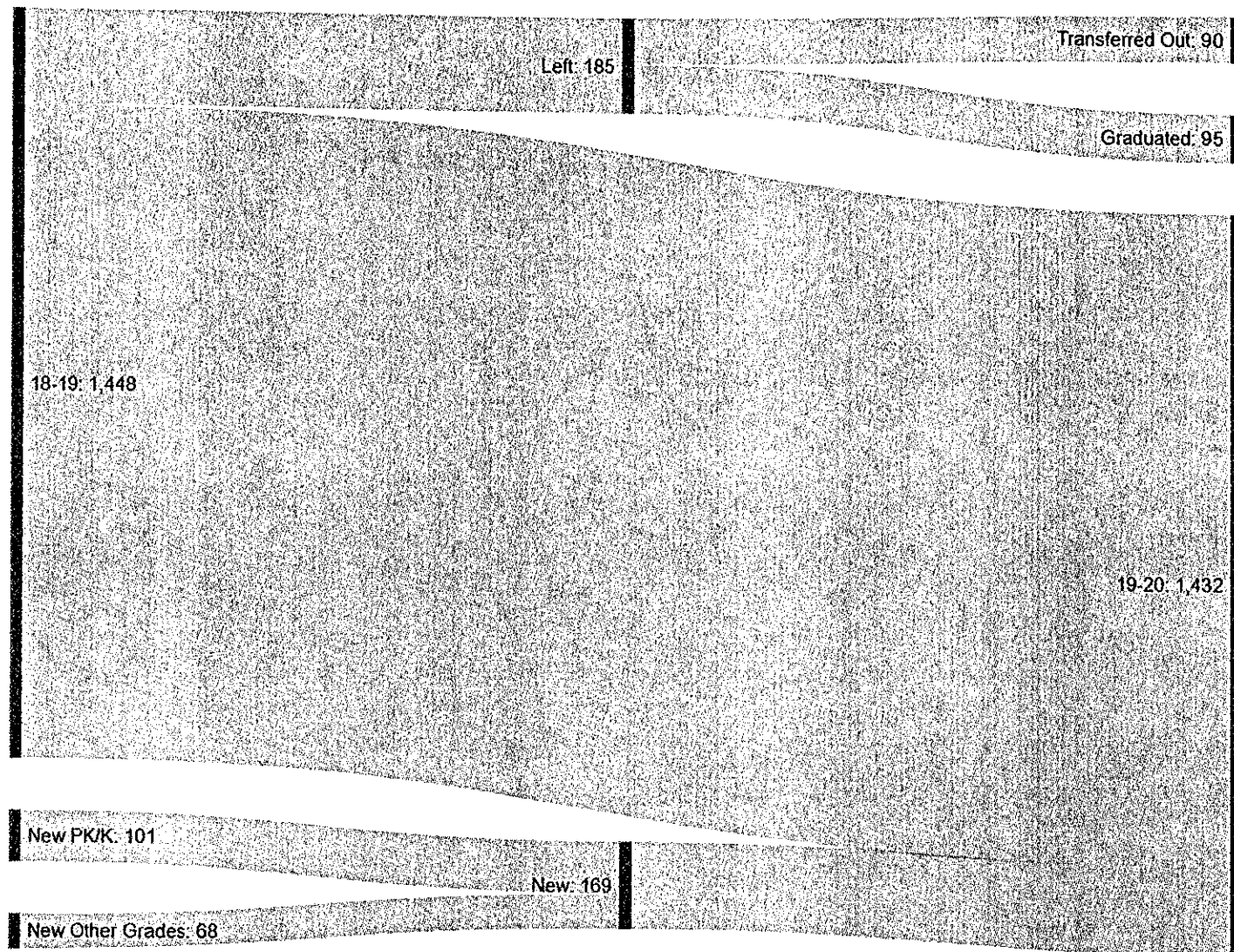


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Comparing 2018-2019 enrollments with 2019-2020



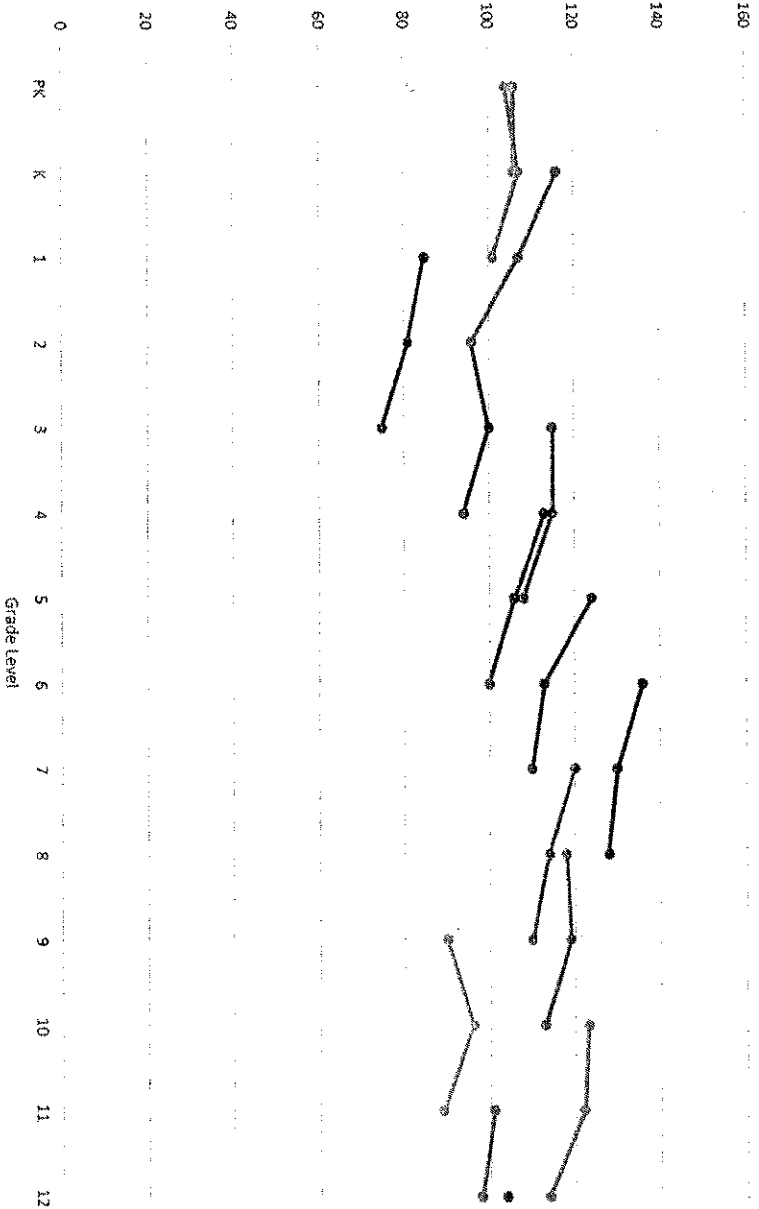
In the previous year, the enrollment drop was only 16. The enrollment decline went from 16 during the summer of 2019 to 50 in the summer of 2020. Two ways of examining the reasons for the decline include visualizing the individual cohorts of students over the past few years, as well as performing a textual analysis of the exit comments found in PowerSchool.

For the cohort study, I pulled counts for each graduating cohort over the past three years. This chart shows a decline in the size of each group, with several showing steep downward trends from the previous year to the current year. That graph follows.

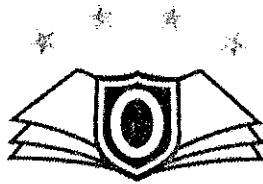


Cohorts

Number of Students



2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026
2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034



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When examining the exit comments for the students who transferred out at the end of the 2019-2020 school year, about 25 of them indicated that the student was to be homeschooled. Another 5 were transfers to local private schools. The rest were moves to other school districts. The 25 transfers to homeschool is certainly out of band for a normal school year, and likely due to COVID.

Another anomaly on the cohort graph is how small the current of PK students is. While about

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam P. Larsen
Assistant Superintendent
Oregon CUSD #220

