Impact of Changes in Student Demographics

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Historical Membership Changes
 2002 – 2006

Projected Membership Changes
 2006 – 2011

Impact of Student Membership Changes on Localities

Summary



- Net change of 44,864 students, or 3.8% was realized over the last 5 years
 - □ 77 localities experienced a growth of 61,096 students
 - □ 55 localities realized a decline of 16,232 students
- Top ten school divisions grew by 43,000 students, or 3.6% while the remaining school divisions grew by only one-tenth of a percent
 - Accounted for approximately 96% of the net total statewide growth

Impact of Membership Changes

- Two different trends in student population have emerged in Virginia over the last 5 years
 - □ 58% of localities experienced growth in ADM,
 - □ 42% experienced a decline
 - However, the student growth was realized primarily in 10 school divisions
- According to the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, student growth trends over the next 5 years indicates a similar pattern of growth concentrated in the same general region



- Total statewide membership is projected to have a net change of 31,857 students, or 2.7% increase over the next five years
- 53 localities will experience growth of about 62,000 students, 10 of which will account for 82% of the growth
 - □ 79 localities: decline of 30,145 students

Impact of Membership Changes

- Based on the prior 5 years of growth the state and localities have had to deal with finding the resources to address the costs associated with increasing student populations
- Faster growing localities continuously struggle with challenges of:
 - □ School construction and building capacity issues
 - The top ten divisions grew by 43,000 students or the equivalent of about 30-35 additional schools
 - Staffing shortages
 - Additional needs and services for diverse types of student populations:
 - Economically disadvantaged: as measured by free lunch eligibility
 - Limited English proficiency
 - Special education

Impact of Membership Changes

- What challenges and pressures will these localities with an ever increasing student population face?
 - By reviewing historical demographic changes, policy makers will better understand their future needs
- Prior years demographics indicate that not only did the top ten school divisions account for the majority of statewide ADM, they also grew disproportionately in special population needs
- These special population needs' are addressed in a variety of programs – for which eligibility is driven by free lunch participation, limited English proficiency or special education

Free Lunch Student Participation

- SOQ remediation, At-risk add-on, VPI, SOL Algebra Readiness and K-3 Class size reduction use free lunch participation as a proxy to determine edibility and receive state funding: \$267.7 million in FY2008
 - The number of eligible students has grown, on average,
 2.4% annually over last 5 years
 - □ Top ten grew, on average 7.3% annually
 - Remaining state grew, on average 1.6% annually
 - The proportion of free lunch students relative to total membership in the top ten school divisions is increasing twice as fast compared to the rest of the state

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Students

- Likewise, localities receive funding based on students with limited English proficiency : \$36.5 million in FY2008
- Statewide LEP population grew, on average by 12.1% annually over last 5 years
 - □ Top ten grew, on average 20.4% annually
 - □ Remaining state grew, on average 9.6% annually
- The number of LEP students in the top ten divisions grew, as a percentage of total membership, at twice the rate as the rest of the state

Special Education Students

- SOQ special education, regional tuition, homebound, jail, and state-operated programs use special education membership to provide state funding: \$443.0 million in FY2008
- Special education has increased slightly, on average, by 0.3% over the last 5 years
- Top ten grew, on average, 2.2% annually
 Remaining state declined, on average, (0.2%) annually

Summary

- In conclusion, the historical and projected student demographic changes in the state illustrate that there are two different population trend patterns
- School divisions experiencing both an increase in student population and a weighted student mix free lunch, LEP and special education membership
 have a different set of challenges from those with declining population
 - Pay for more students, build more schools and educate a changing population