

# Portsmouth Middle School

## Student Enrollment

- Currently 532 students in grades 6-8
- Proposed design based on core spaces for 650 students and maximum classroom space for 636 to 696 students
- While average enrollment since 2000 is flat and some demographers project minimal short term growth, the designed capacity is prudent:
  - Building life expectancy to 2060 and beyond
  - Anticipated longer term growth in Seacoast and Portsmouth

# Population Projections

- NH grew 6.4% from 2000 to 2006. “NH is gaining migrants at every age. Gains are greatest for family-age households”\*
- NH may be “graying” but school age population still expected to grow. U.S. Census Bureau projects 14.8% increase in under age 18 by 2030 (33% total increase)\*\*
- NH Office of Energy and Planning projects Rockingham County population increase of 18.5% by 2030; Portsmouth increase 16.1%\*\*\*
- Portsmouth will remain highly desirable place to live

\* Carsey Institute/UNH “The Changing Faces of New Hampshire” 2007 [www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu](http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu)

\*\* US Census Bureau Interim State Population Projections, 2005  
[www.census.gov/population/www/projections/projectionsagesex.html](http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/projectionsagesex.html)

\*\*\* NH Office of Energy and Planning “Municipal Population Projections”, 2007  
<http://www.nh.gov/oep/programs/DataCenter/Population/documents/MunicipalPopulationProjections2010-2030.pdf>

# Core Space Estimate

- 600-620 students by 2030
- Standard planning for space utilization is about 90% of maximum capacity...suggesting core space for about 690 students
- Core spaces--which include cafeteria, library/media center and gymnasium—generally are difficult to expand by later building additions
- Proposed design for 650 balances projected needs vs. budget realities

# Program Structure

- Middle school program based on proven team concept
- Two teams per grade
- Each 6<sup>th</sup> grade team requires 4 dedicated classrooms: math, language arts, science and social studies
- Each 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team requires 4 dedicated classrooms, plus each grade shares one language arts class room
- Current enrollment requires 26 classrooms (and 26 classroom teachers)...at 24 to 27 students per classroom, maximum enrollment is 636 to 696 students