



Planning for the Future

Leavenworth Unified School District 453

Enrollment Analysis

January 2026

RSP Quick Facts:

- Founded in 2003
- Professional educational planning firm
- Expertise in multiple disciplines (GIS, Planning, Facilitation)
- Over 20 years of planning experience
- Over 80 years of education experience
- Over 20 years of GIS experience
- Projection accuracy of 97% or greater

RSP Clients:

RSP was started with the desire and commitment to assist school districts in long-range planning. RSP has served over **130** clients in:

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
| • Arkansas | • Minnesota | • South Dakota |
| • Colorado | • Missouri | • Tennessee |
| • Iowa | • Nebraska | • Wisconsin |
| • Illinois | • North Dakota | |
| • Kansas | • Oklahoma | |

RSP Planning Team:

Robert Schwarz, CEO

- Military, County, City, and School District Planner
- University of Kansas, Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Certified Education Facilities Professional (CEFP)

Ginna Wallace, Planner

- City, Demographic, and School District Planner
- University of Kansas, Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

RSP Recent Projects:

Basehor-Linwood, USD 458

- *Enrollment Analysis, 2023/24*
- *Capacity Analysis, 2023/24*

Lansing, USD 469

- *Enrollment Analysis, 2024/25*

McPherson, USD 418

- *Enrollment Analysis, 2024/25*
- *Boundary Analysis, 2025/26*

Our Partners:



socialpinpoint

Benefits of Partnership

Data-Driven Decision Making

Optimized Learning Environments

Right-Sizing Facility Utilization

Practical, Actionable Planning Support

Overview of Work:

- Enrollment Analysis: 2018/19
 - Provided a 10-Year Enrollment Forecast for 2019/20 to 2028/29
 - Results included stable to decreasing enrollment over a ten-year outlook
- Boundary Analysis: 2018/19
 - Assisted in the opening of Leavenworth Intermediate School in 2020/21
 - Repurposed Earl Lawson Elementary from a K-5th grade elementary school to a Kdg Early Education Center
 - Converted the other three elementary schools to serving 1-4th grade with durable attendance boundaries

RSP Advantages:

- ✓ Use of validated enrollment, housing, and demographic data to inform strategic and operational decisions.
- ✓ Alignment of facility use and program placement to ensure students learn in appropriately sized, well-utilized spaces.
- ✓ Proactive adjustments to building use to reflect evolving student enrollment trends and reduce inefficiencies.
- ✓ Guidance on real-world planning decisions, including capacity management, capital planning, and long-term growth or stabilization strategies

Expectations

Thank you to Leavenworth USD 453, Leavenworth County, the City of Leavenworth, the State of Kansas, the US Census Bureau, and ESRI for assisting in this analysis.

Helpful Hints to Read the Report:



Slides that have the flagged star symbol are SIGNATURE SLIDES and are the most important variables in this unique analysis



Each variable is analyzed as an indicator of future student population. Use the **Orange Plus** (student growth) and **Green Minus** (student loss) icons to note how each indicator contributes to the analysis:



Click the APPENDIX symbol on a page to reference additional analysis on this topic

Timeline:

The project timeline is a result of ensuring student data could be represented as close as possible to the Official County Data with attributes that would allow RSP to forecast enrollment at a parcel-level geography.

Findings:

The findings were not focused on supporting or contradicting any past internal or outsourced studies. This analysis is based on data, data, and more data.

Study:

This study factored in many different data sets to provide data-driven analysis that is the foundation of the RSP Statistical Forecast Model (SFM).

Change:

Enrollment change in the community is influenced by, but not limited to, the birth rate, demographics, types of development and/or housing affordability.

Facts:

The study does not provide specific information about which site would be best suited for a new facility or for that matter should the district build any new facility – this analysis is one portion of how to make that decision. This analysis is based on the same grade configuration and educational programming expectations the patrons have for each student. Projecting enrollment is not a science – like life in general some assumptions happen that may lead to greater enrollment while others toward a smaller enrollment.

The goal of this study is to help the board, administration, and public understand how to make the best decision for the students at the classroom level.

Discussion Points

Helpful Hints to Read the Report:



Slides that have the flagged star symbol are SIGNATURE SLIDES



Orange: indicator of student growth



Green: indicator of student loss



Click the APPENDIX symbol on a page to reference additional analysis

Part 1: Enrollment & Demographic

Sophisticated Forecast Model (SFM)
Past Enrollment and Cohort Changes
Past Student Analysis Maps & Data

Part 2: Development

Population, Development, & Enrollment Trends
Housing Market Maps & Data
Potential Growth Analysis

Part 3: Projections

Past, Current, & Future Enrollment
Building Projections
Grade Level Projections

Part 4: Next Steps

Moving Forward
Challenges & Solutions
Next Steps & Key Considerations

Part 5: Appendix

Additional Student Analysis Maps
Definitions



District enrollment to decrease by 279 students by 2030/31 (-9%)

- **PK-6th Grade enrollment to decrease by 181 students by 2030/31**
- **7-8th Grade enrollment to increase by 18 students by 2030/31**
- **9-12th Grade enrollment to decrease by 116 students by 2030/31**

IMPORTANT: While current data shows enrollment declining, decreases are not expected to continue forever. Enrollment trends change over time, and factors such as housing values, new development, and community investments can bring families back to the district.



Facilities Remain Mostly Underutilized:

- The current challenges at the Intermediate School are forecasted to be resolved by 2029/30 when enrollment decreases to less than 400 students
- Other facility enrollments are utilizing less than 70% of capacity, signaling potential challenges with efficiency, staffing, programming options, etc.



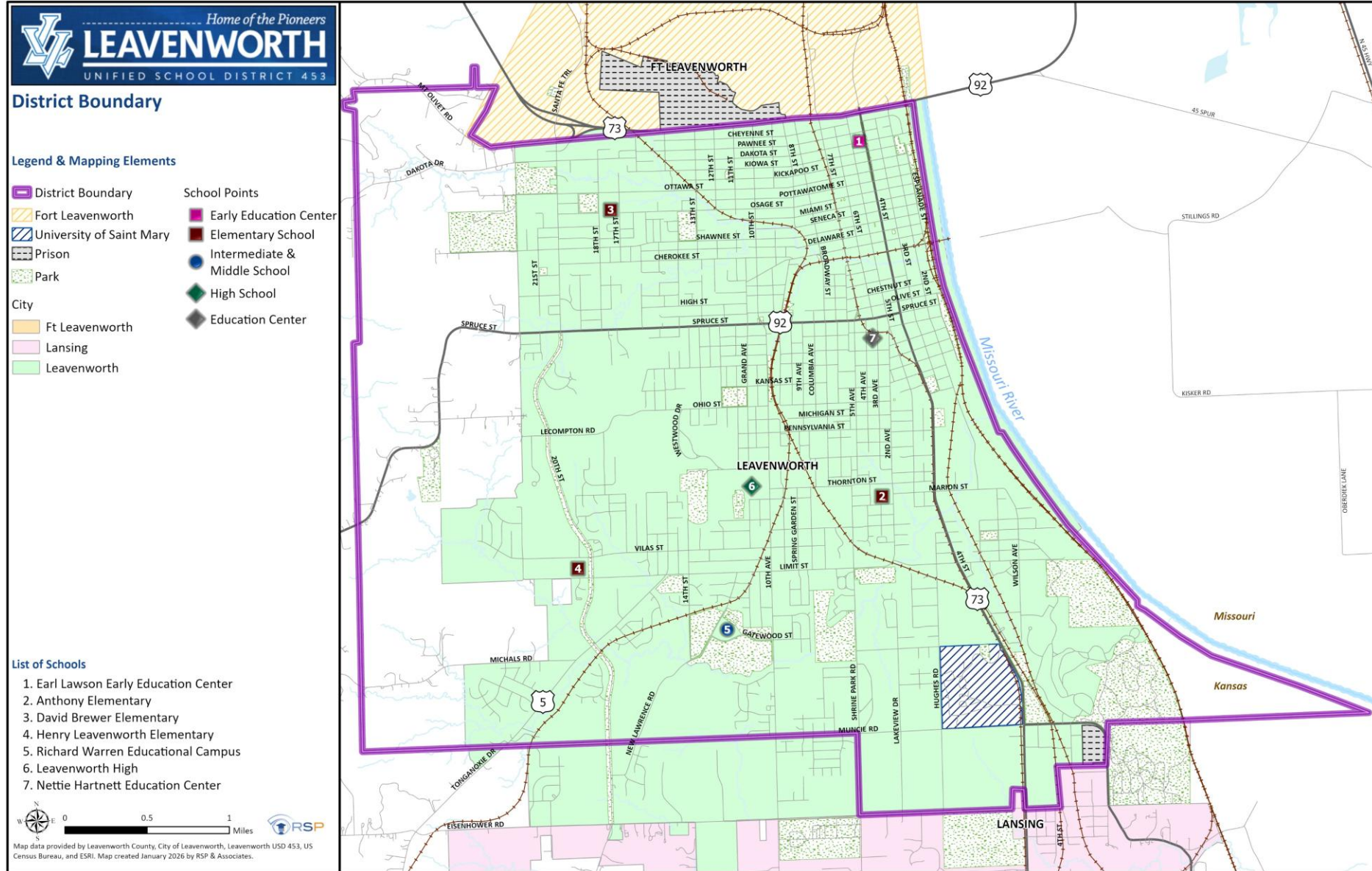
Contributing Factors of Forecast:

- **Declining live births and Kdg classes continue to constrain new student inflow, particularly at the elementary level.**
- **Limited near-term residential development reduces the likelihood of enrollment recovery** under current assumptions.
- **Re-greening of existing housing may support modest re-entry or stabilization, but impacts are uncertain and likely incremental.**
- **High school programming generates short-term enrollment gains, particularly in upper grades; however, many of these gains diminish by 12th grade, limiting their long-term impact on total enrollment.**

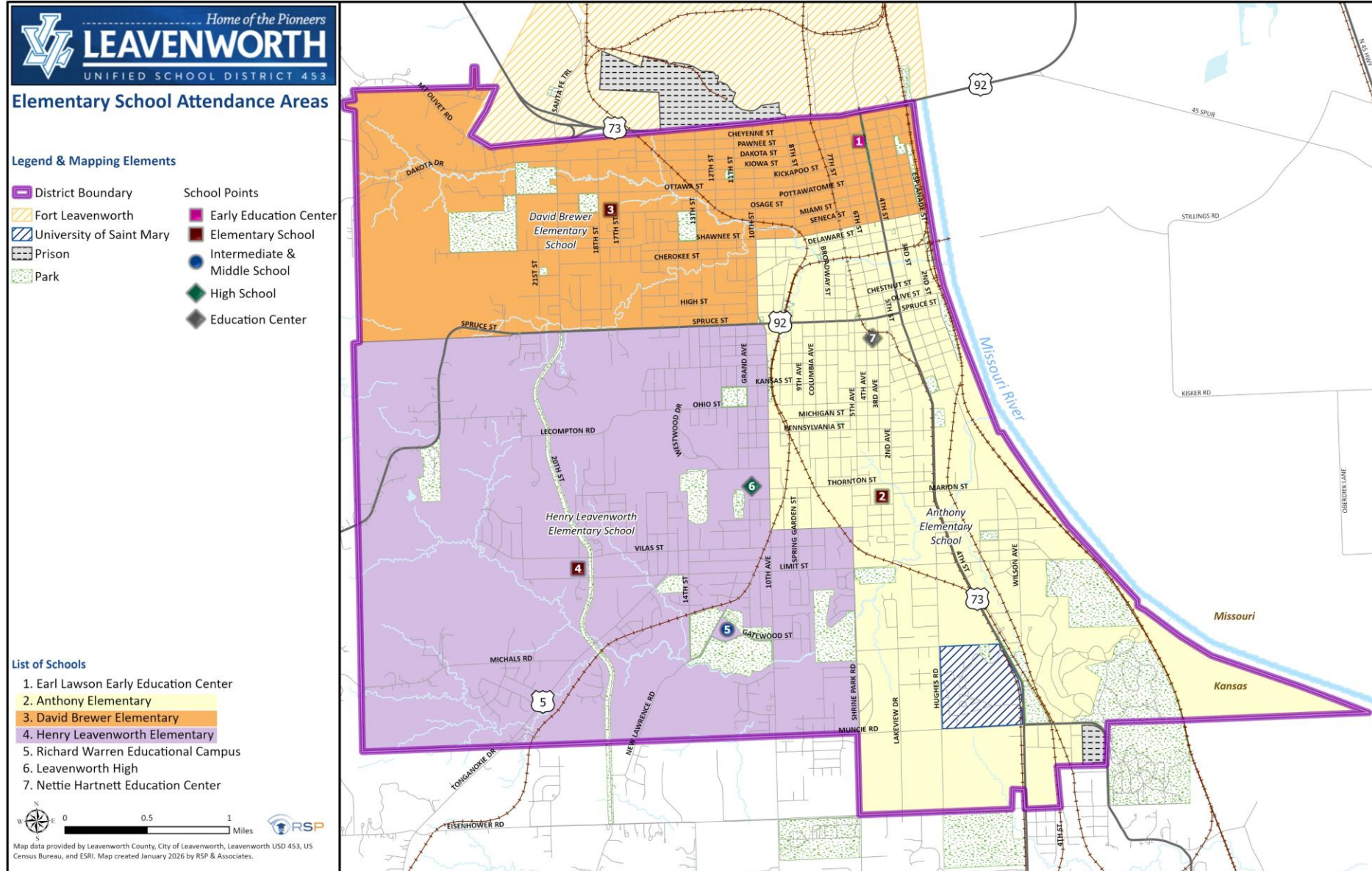
Part One: Past Enrollment and Demographics



District Boundary and City Limits Map



Elementary Boundary Map



RSP Planning Areas

Purpose: This map illustrates how the district is divided into **RSP Planning Areas**, the small geographic units used in the projection model.

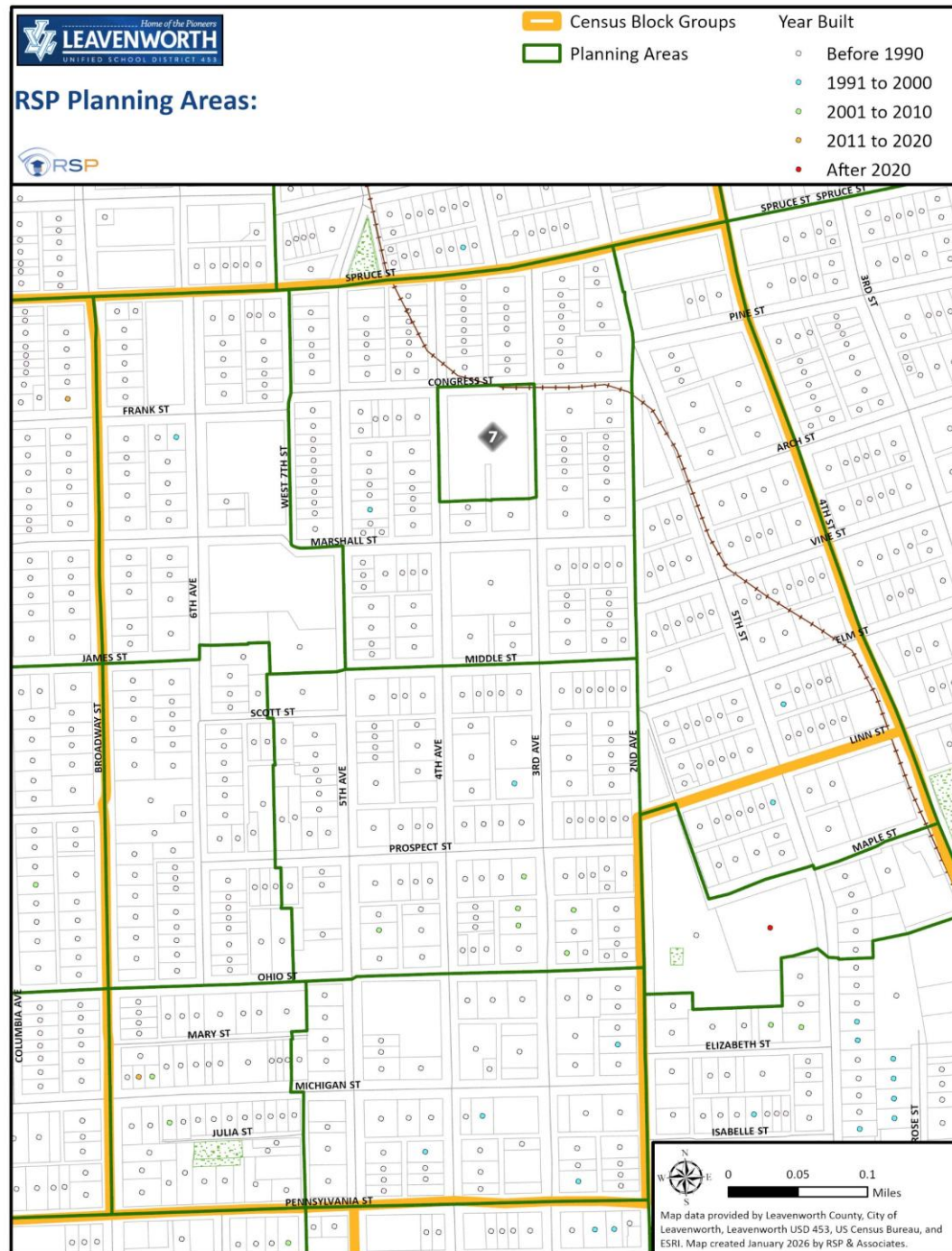
Map Details (Over 170 Planning Areas were analyzed):

- **Yellow Lines:** Represent **Census Block Groups**
- **Green Lines:** Represent **RSP Planning Areas**

Key Insights and Considerations:

- Planning Areas are more detailed than census block groups, enhancing the **statistical connection between student populations and geography**.
- Planning Areas are created using **multiple factors**:
 - Census block groups and city geographies
 - Land use patterns and residential density
 - Natural and manmade features
 - School attendance boundaries
- Each Planning Area has a **unique profile** influenced by factors (housing value, square footage, year built, proximity to amenities).
- By using planning areas, RSP can more accurately model **enrollment, yield rates, and student distribution**, linking demographic and housing indicators to student population trends.

Main Takeaway: The map provides context to how RSP analyzes change in a smaller geographic level. RSP's planning areas are more granular than census geographies, boosting the statistical connection of variables.



Sophisticated Forecast Model

Built-Out $S_{c, t, x} = S_{c-1, t-1, x} * GC$

Let:

- S = The number of students, either an actual count or a projected count
- x = A subscript denoting an attendance area in the School District
- c = Grade level
- t = Time (years)
- GC = Growth component either modeling enrollment increase or decrease based on historical information, expressed as a real number

Developing $S_{c, t, x} = S_{c-1, t-1, x} + (BP_{t, x} * R_{c, x})$

Where: $BP_{t, x} = \left(\frac{(CP_x) (BT_x) (A_x)}{\sum_x (CP_x) (BT_x) (A_x)} \right) * CT$

Let:

- S = The number of students, either an actual count or a projected count
- x = A subscript denoting an attendance area in School District
- c = Grade level
- t = Time (years)
- BP = Building permit forecast as given by the Building Permit Allocation Model (BPAM) model
- R_{c, x} = Student Enrollment ratio of cohort c in planning area x
- CP = Capacity of a planning area as expressed by available housing units
- BT = Building history trend of planning area
- A = An index which models the likelihood of development
- CT = Building permit control total forecast

This is the **central focus** of everything RSP does.

The model is based on what is happening in a school district. The best data is statistically analyzed to provide an accurate enrollment forecast. The District will be able to use RSP's report and maps to better understand demographic trends, school utilization, and the timing of construction projects.

The SFM is...

- a social science... not an exact science; it identifies behavior trends to determine the propensity of them to be recreated
- valuable in how our team created and analyzes the geography at a planning area level for any commonality which while help produce an accurate forecast

Some variables examined for each planning area (but not limited to) are...

- natural cohort (district data)
- planning area subdivision lifecycle (a RSP variable)
- the value of homes (county assessor data)
- type of residential units like single-family, multi-family, townhome, mobile home, etc. (county assessor data)
- year units were built
- estimated female population (census data)
- estimated 0-4 population (census data)
- existing land use (county and city data)
- future land use (county and city data)
- capital improvement plan (county and city data)
- future development (county and city data)
- in-migration of students (district data) & out-migration of students (district data)

Each variable is analyzed as an indicator of the future student population:



Indicator of Student Growth



Indicator of Student Loss

Understanding the Model

RSP Recommended to continually monitor the following indicators:

Enrollment may decrease more than forecasted if...	Enrollment may increase more than forecasted if...
⊖ Decreasing share of live births	⊕ Increasing share of live births
⊖ Current housing stock does not re-green (continues to age)	⊕ Current housing stock re-greens (turns over)
⊖ Housing development experiences minimal potential growth	⊕ Housing development experience more potential growth
⊖ Economic indicators challenge the ability for new homeowners and affordability aspects of the district	⊕ Economic indicators improve the ability for new homeowners and the affordability aspects of the district
⊖ Demographic shifts in community and/or surrounding communities	⊕ Demographic shifts in community and/or surrounding communities
⊖ Incoming Kindergarten class smaller than outgoing senior class	⊕ Incoming Kindergarten class larger than outgoing senior class

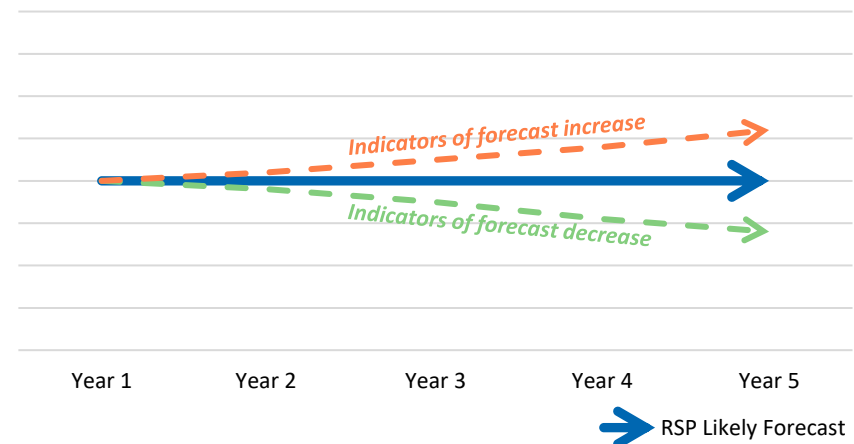
See graphic below to illustrate how the different variables may impact forecasted enrollment outlook:

Main Takeaway:

- These factors are not all positive or negative. Each have a different impact on future outlooks.
- State education policy change may impact enrollment outlook. This analysis assumes policies will continue as they currently operate throughout the projection time frame.
- It is important to continue to monitor these factors – RSP modeling attempts to find the most likely outcome:

The goal of this study is to help the board, administration, and public understand how to make the best decision for the students at the classroom level.

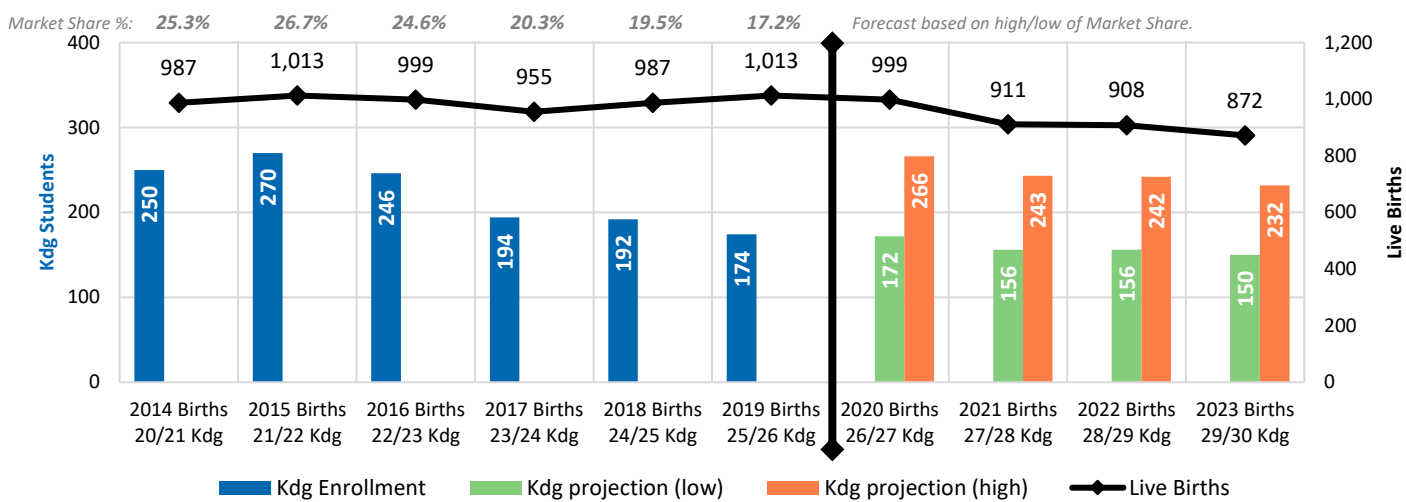
Example of Forecast Evolution



Birth Rate Visuals

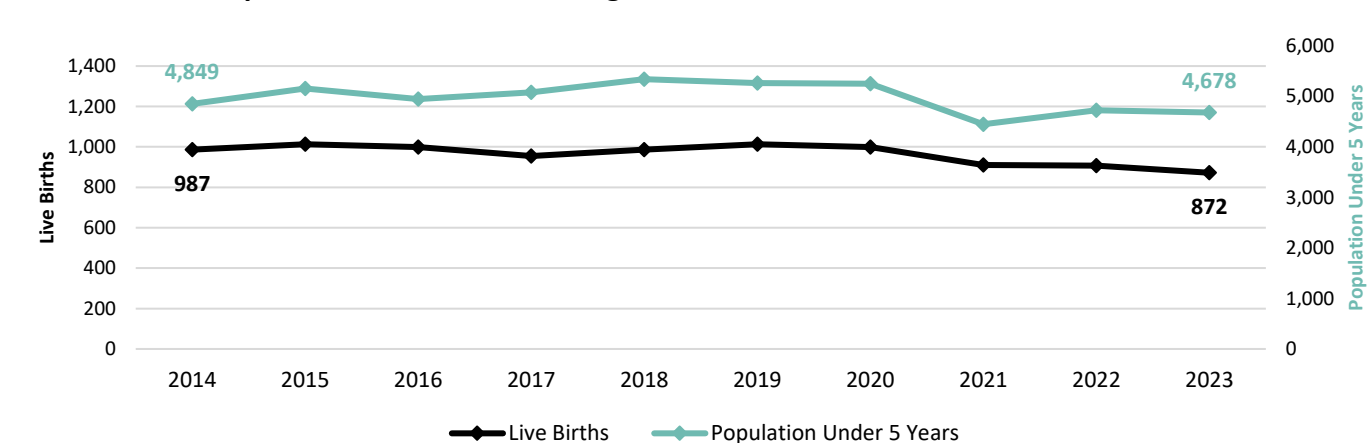


Live Births V.S. Kindergarten Students 5 Year Later



Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Leavenworth County, and Leavenworth USD 453

Live Births and Population Under 5 Years of Age



Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Leavenworth County, US Census, and Leavenworth USD 453

Observations:

- Leavenworth County annual live births have **decreased the past four years**.
- Since 2020, annual live births in the region have remained **below 1,000**, limiting the size of future Kdg cohorts regardless of local development activity.
- The Kdg class size **decreased this year to 174 students**, representing a **17.2% market share of 2019 births**, reinforcing the impact of smaller birth cohorts five years prior.
- With fewer births each year, the regional population under age five has declined to **fewer than 4,700 children**, reducing the pool of potential future students.
- Even under higher market share assumptions, projected Kdg enrollment over the next several years is expected to **remain below 270 students, making near-term growth challenging**.

Main Takeaway: Both annual live births and the population under age five in Leavenworth County have declined over the past decade. This regional demographic shift significantly constrains the district's ability to grow enrollment.

Past Enrollment by Grade

Note: Enrollment does NOT include Leavenworth Virtual Academy Students.



Enrollment By Grade

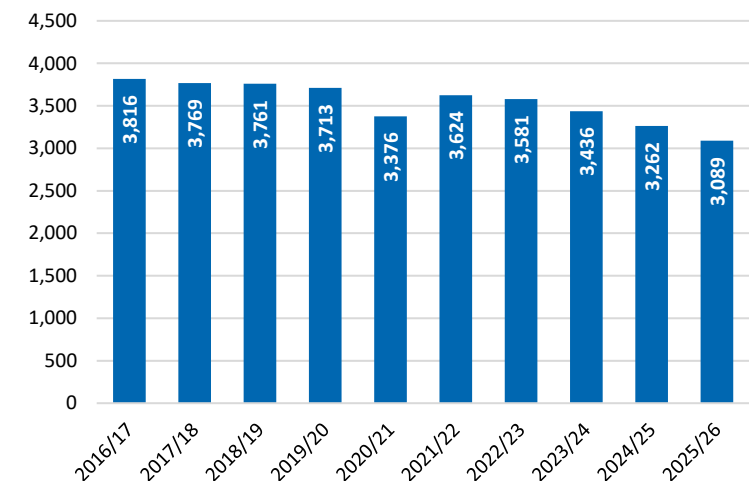
Enrollment By Grade															PK-12			K-12		
Year	PK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total	Change	% Change	Total	Change	% Change
2009/10	193	307	252	276	255	271	253	255	235	208	314	306	361	353	3,839			3,646		
2010/11	174	263	273	208	263	233	243	242	241	234	262	379	293	322	3,630	-209	-5.4%	3,456	-190	-5.2%
2011/12	243	211	253	273	230	249	227	230	240	235	287	339	354	293	3,664	34	0.9%	3,421	-35	-1.0%
2012/13	181	290	267	250	262	231	243	221	228	251	299	367	339	363	3,792	128	3.5%	3,611	190	5.6%
2013/14	184	289	274	240	255	264	210	225	212	232	334	351	367	361	3,798	6	0.2%	3,614	3	0.1%
2014/15	190	269	289	278	249	245	256	210	236	210	328	372	346	360	3,838	40	1.1%	3,648	34	0.9%
2015/16	155	279	280	267	264	263	250	247	196	245	292	353	340	333	3,764	-74	-1.9%	3,609	-39	-1.1%
2016/17	151	283	281	260	267	260	245	244	241	197	345	335	365	342	3,816	52	1.4%	3,665	56	1.6%
2017/18	140	280	269	267	240	263	256	237	234	245	298	367	317	356	3,769	-47	-1.2%	3,629	-36	-1.0%
2018/19	137	256	272	256	271	253	247	257	238	240	339	330	349	316	3,761	-8	-0.2%	3,624	-5	-0.1%
2019/20	154	230	245	275	261	265	248	240	243	230	306	361	317	338	3,713	-48	-1.3%	3,559	-65	-1.8%
2020/21	113	219	211	228	224	228	232	217	212	233	288	329	339	303	3,376	-337	-9.1%	3,263	-296	-8.3%
2021/22	134	253	257	234	235	243	248	250	235	244	299	352	307	333	3,624	248	7.3%	3,490	227	7.0%
2022/23	117	245	270	256	241	232	249	236	247	236	304	337	325	287	3,582	-42	-1.2%	3,465	-25	-0.7%
2023/24	98	193	244	243	244	226	217	237	216	235	329	337	315	302	3,436	-146	-4.1%	3,338	-127	-3.7%
2024/25	103	189	199	230	231	231	216	195	219	211	314	326	306	292	3,262	-174	-5.1%	3,159	-179	-5.4%
2025/26	84	174	186	192	224	221	213	201	196	206	273	330	297	292	3,089	-173	-5.3%	3,005	-154	-4.9%

Source: Kansas Department of Education and Leavenworth Unified School District 453 (2009/10 to 2025/26)

Observations:

- Total enrollment decreased to 3,089 total students (-173 students from last year):
 - From 2016/17 to 2025/26 enrollment has decreased by 19%
 - The past three years enrollment has decrease by 4-5% annually indicating a greater drop off of enrollment that likely will not be sustained
- The graduating senior class is larger than the incoming Kindergarten class, which tends to **decrease total enrollment**.
 - Largest K-12 class in 2025/26: **10th grade with 330 students**
 - Smallest K-12 class in 2025/26: **Kindergarten with 174 students**
- Enrollment declines are most pronounced in the early grades, indicating that **smaller cohorts are entering the system and progressing upward**.
- Without **larger Kindergarten cohorts or increased in-migration**, enrollment declines are likely to **continue as larger secondary cohorts graduate**.

Total Enrollment Over Time (PK-12)



Grade Progression Change

Note: Enrollment does NOT include Leavenworth Virtual Academy Students. Student who left brick-and-mortar setting to attend the virtual academy would be included as student decreases.

Enrollment Grade Change

Focus of Table:

From	To	PK	K	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	PK-12		K-12	
		PK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
2009/10	2010/11	-19	-44	-34	-44	-13	-22	-28	-11	-14	-1	54	65	-13	-39	-209	-5.4%	-190	-4.9%
2010/11	2011/12	69	-52	-10	0	22	-14	-6	-13	-2	-6	53	77	-25	0	34	0.9%	-35	-1.0%
2011/12	2012/13	-62	79	56	-3	-11	1	-6	-6	-2	11	64	80	0	9	128	3.5%	190	5.2%
2012/13	2013/14	3	-1	-16	-27	5	2	-21	-18	-9	4	83	52	0	22	6	0.2%	3	0.1%
2013/14	2014/15	6	-20	0	4	9	-10	-8	0	11	-2	96	38	-5	-7	40	1.1%	34	0.9%
2014/15	2015/16	-35	10	11	-22	-14	14	5	-9	-14	9	82	25	-32	-13	-74	-1.9%	-39	-1.0%
2015/16	2016/17	-4	4	2	-20	0	-4	-18	-6	-6	1	100	43	12	2	52	1.4%	56	1.5%
2016/17	2017/18	-11	-3	-14	-14	-20	-4	-4	-8	-10	4	101	22	-18	-9	-47	-1.2%	-36	-0.9%
2017/18	2018/19	-3	-24	-8	-13	4	13	-16	1	1	6	94	32	-18	-1	-8	-0.2%	-5	-0.1%
2018/19	2019/20	17	-26	-11	3	5	-6	-5	-7	-14	-8	66	22	-13	-11	-48	-1.3%	-65	-1.7%
2019/20	2020/21	-41	-11	-19	-17	-51	-33	-33	-31	-28	-10	58	23	-22	-14	-337	-9.1%	-296	-8.0%
2020/21	2021/22	21	34	38	23	7	19	20	18	18	32	66	64	-22	-6	248	7.3%	227	6.7%
2021/22	2022/23	-17	-8	17	-1	7	-3	6	-12	-3	1	60	38	-27	-20	-42	-1.2%	-25	-0.7%
2022/23	2023/24	-19	-52	-1	-27	-12	-15	-15	-12	-20	-12	93	33	-22	-23	-146	-4.1%	-127	-3.5%
2023/24	2024/25	5	-4	6	-14	-12	-13	-10	-22	-18	-5	79	-3	-31	-23	-174	-5.1%	-179	-5.2%
2024/25	2025/26	-19	-15	-3	-7	-6	-10	-18	-15	1	-13	62	16	-29	-14	-173	-5.3%	-154	-4.7%
3-Year Average		-11.0	-23.7	0.7	-16.0	-10.0	-12.7	-14.3	-16.3	-12.3	-10.0	78.0	15.3	-27.3	-20.0	-164.3	-4.8%	-153.3	-4.5%
3-Year Weighted Average		-11.0	-17.5	0.3	-12.7	-9.0	-11.8	-14.8	-16.8	-8.8	-10.2	72.8	12.5	-28.5	-18.5	-168.8	-5.0%	-157.8	-4.7%

Source: Kansas Department of Education and Leavenworth Unified School District 453 (2009/10 to 2025/26)

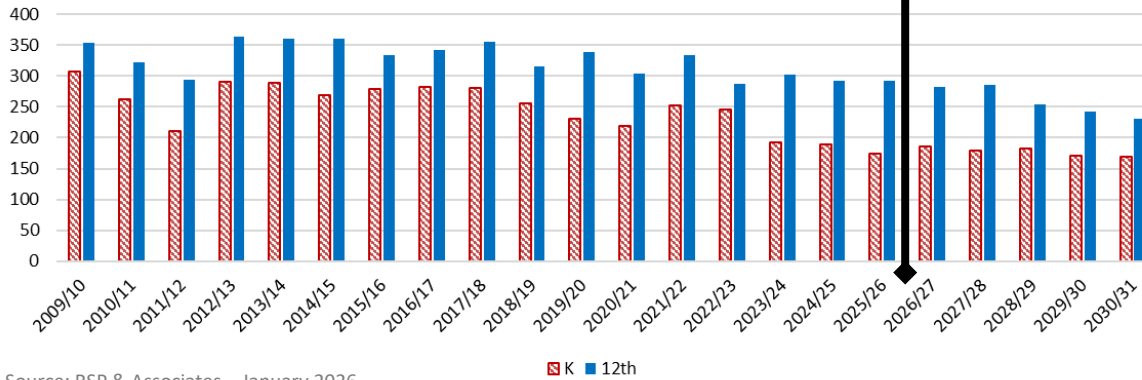
Observations:

- Most grade levels experience cohort losses year over year, with the notable exceptions of 8th → 9th grade and 9th → 10th grade:
 - The largest 3-year average cohort increase occurs from 8th → 9th grade (+78 students).
 - This increase is likely driven by open enrollment and programmatic attraction at the high school level.
- Cohorts generally decline as they progress through the system, particularly in the upper high school grades.
 - The largest 3-year average cohort decline occurs from 10th → 11th grade (-27 students)
- Overall district enrollment declined by 5.3% from last year, representing a **net loss of 173 students**, with losses concentrated outside of the high school entry grades.
 - Instructional modality and choice-based enrollment patterns should continue to be monitored, as some students not currently enrolled may still reside in the district and could return in future years.

Class Size Comparisons

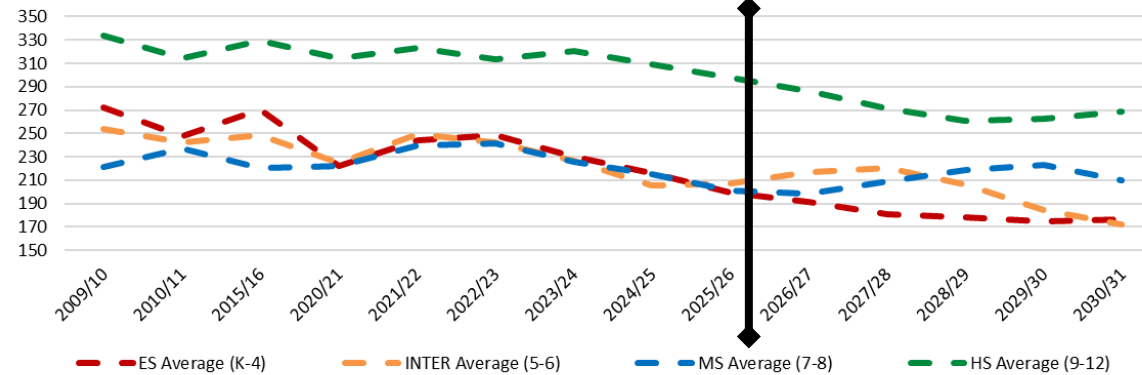


Kindergarten and 12th Grade Comparison



Source: RSP & Associates – January 2026

Grade Size Comparison by Grade Level



Source: RSP & Associates – January 2026

K and 12th Grade Comparisons:

- The current 12th grade class is 182 students larger than the current Kdg class, creating a structural imbalance.
- Larger exiting classes are not being fully replaced by incoming Kdg cohorts, which continues to place downward pressure on total enrollment.
- This imbalance is projected to persist over the next five years, limiting the district's ability to achieve enrollment growth.
- By the end of the projection window:
 - 12th grade declines to fewer than 250 students
 - Kdg fluctuates between 150-200 students, reinforcing smaller cohort replacement.

Average Class Sizes

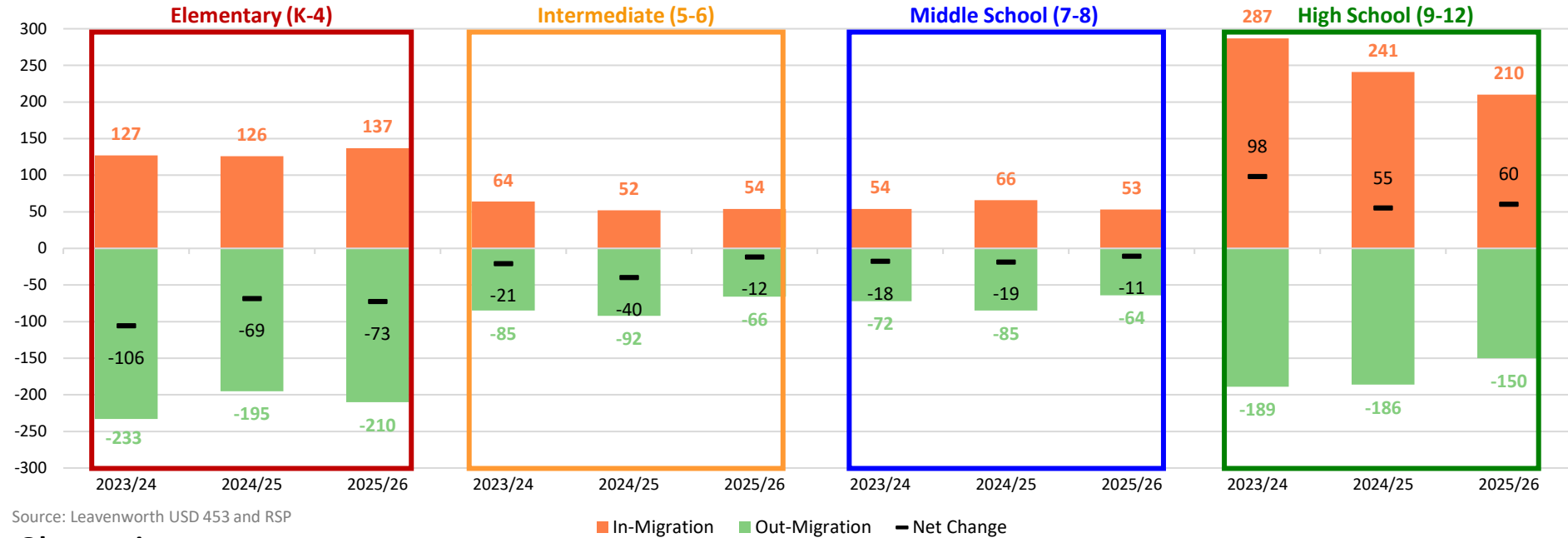
- High school grades historically—and in future projections—remain the largest average class sizes in the district, driven in part by the sustained 8th → 9th grade cohort increase.
- Elementary grades continue their recent trajectory as the smallest average class sizes, with intermediate grades following as cohorts progress upward.
- This pattern illustrates a “wave” effect, where smaller elementary cohorts move through the system, gradually reducing average class sizes at middle and high school levels over time.

Main Takeaway: Persistent differences between exiting and entering class sizes, combined with smaller elementary cohorts, will continue to constrain district-wide enrollment growth, even as HS classes remain comparatively large in the near term.

3-Year Student Migration Trend

Out-Migration: Shows number of students in grade K to 11th that were attending the District in the previous year, but are not attending the District in the current year.
In-Migration: Shows number of students in grade 1st to 12th that are attending the District in the current year, but were not attending the District in the previous year.

Student In V.S. Out Migration



Observations

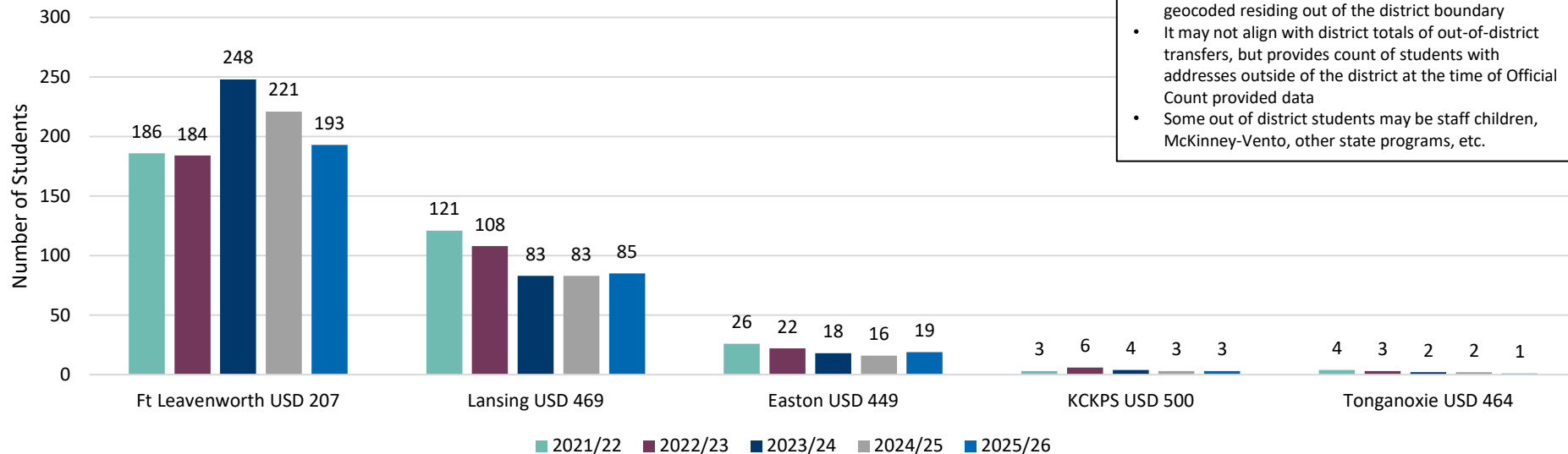
- This analysis reflects a year-to-year perspective of student change from official count data. There will likely be student changes that happen during the school year that are ultimately reflected in the enrollment forecast (Fort Leavenworth population may impact this variable).
 - Kdg students are not included in the **In-Migration** as it is compulsory (Not Required); Most Kdg students were not receiving services the prior year. 12th grade students are not included in the **Out-Migration** as they likely naturally left the district through graduation
 - **Variables at play:** Home values, program offerings, interest rates, available and type of inventory, etc.
- Across all three years, the district consistently **loses more students than it gains:**
 - 2023/24: +532 in-migration, -579 out-migration, **-47 NET students**
 - 2024/25: +485 in-migration, -558 out-migration, **-73 NET students**
 - 2025/26: +454 in-migration, -490 out-migration, **-36 NET students**

Main Takeaway: Transfer patterns show declining movement from elementary to middle school, with **increased in-migration at the high school level**, likely due to program offerings; however, the **net district-wide trend is negative**.

Out of District Student Analysis



Out of District Students by Residing School District (Top 5)

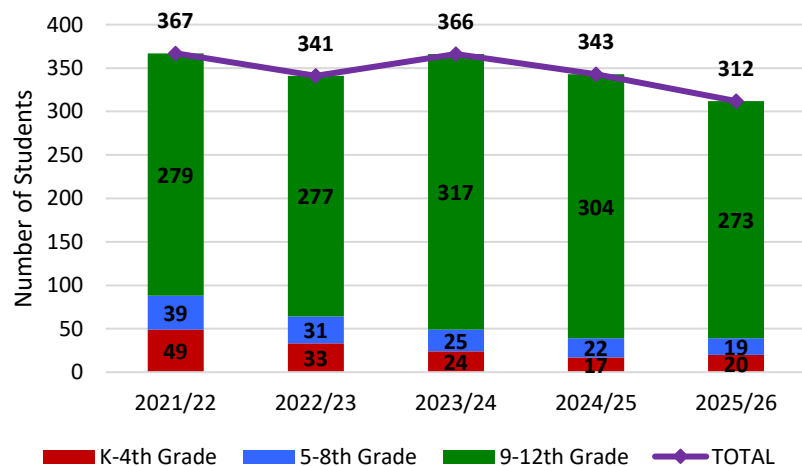


Notes:

- Analysis includes the number of students RSP has geocoded residing out of the district boundary
- It may not align with district totals of out-of-district transfers, but provides count of students with addresses outside of the district at the time of Official Count provided data
- Some out of district students may be staff children, McKinney-Vento, other state programs, etc.

Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

Total Out of District Students by Year



Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

Observations

- Out of district enrollment **decreased this year**
 - This variable could be influenced by the available building capacity at each district and the programs offered (in district and surrounding)
- **312 total students** reside out of the district boundary – majority of these students are in **high school grades**
 - The 273 High School students this year equate to 23% of the total 9-12th grade enrollment this year (1,192 students)
- Ft. Leavenworth USD 207 tends to contribute the largest share of out of district students

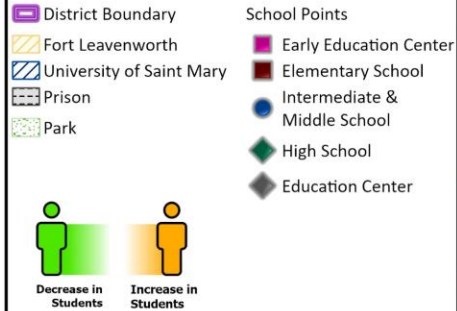
Main Takeaway: With Kansas Open Enrollment Law changing next year, it is important to monitor the current market share of out of district students to better understand changes in student choices.

K-12 Student Count Change Map



Student Count Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades K-12

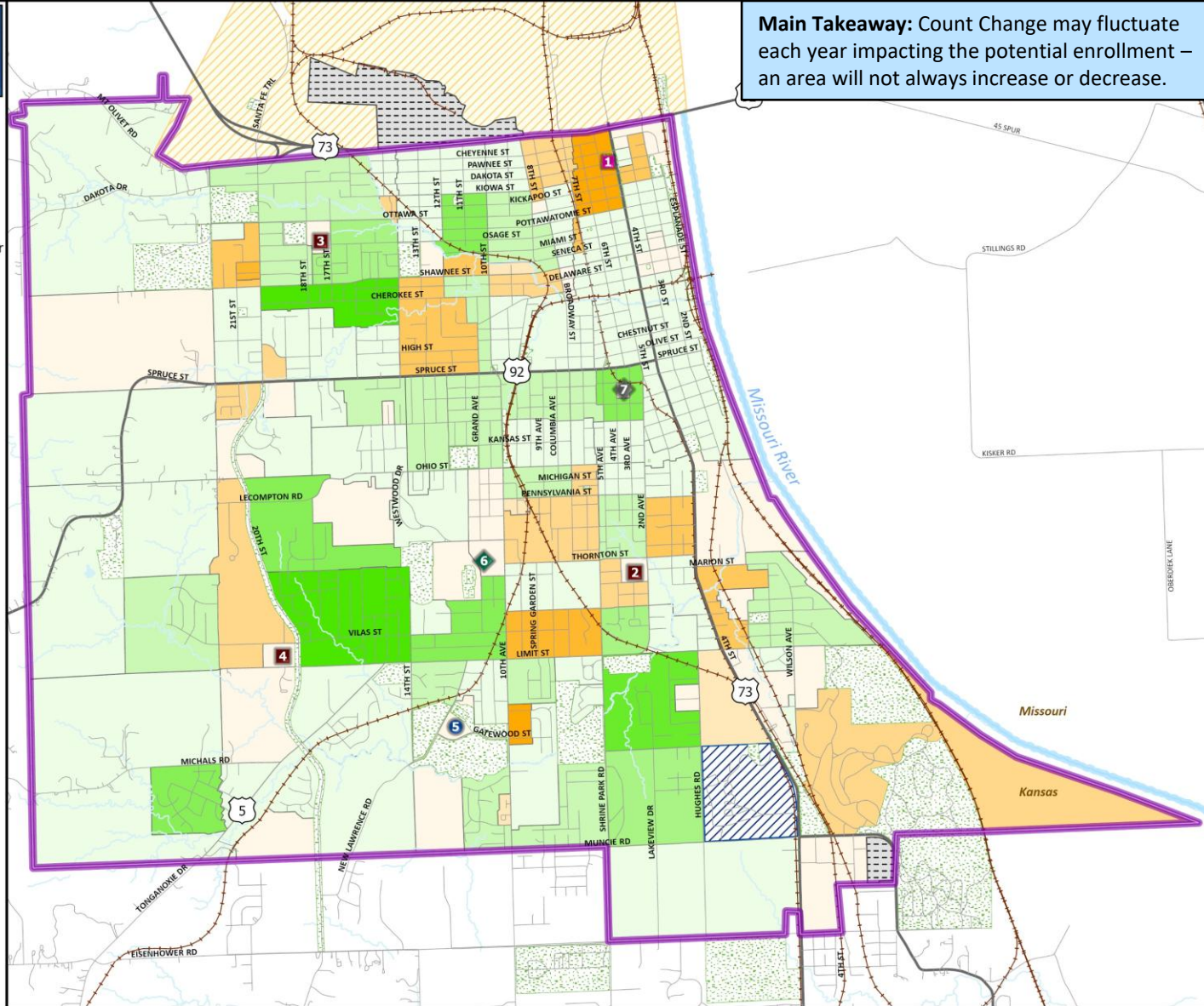
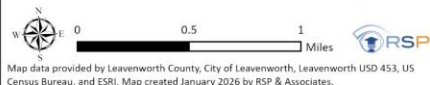
Legend & Mapping Elements



Count Change is the number of students in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 in each Planning Area.

List of Schools

1. Earl Lawson Early Education Center
2. Anthony Elementary
3. David Brewer Elementary
4. Henry Leavenworth Elementary
5. Richard Warren Educational Campus
6. Leavenworth High
7. Nettie Hartnett Education Center



Main Takeaway: Count Change may fluctuate each year impacting the potential enrollment – an area will not always increase or decrease.

K-12 Student Heat Density Map

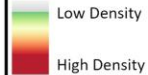


Student "Heat" Density in 2025/26 in Grades K-12

Legend & Mapping Elements

- District Boundary
- Fort Leavenworth
- University of Saint Mary
- Prison
- Park
- School Points
 - Early Education Center
 - Elementary School
 - Intermediate & Middle School
 - High School
 - Education Center

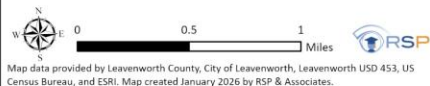
Student Density



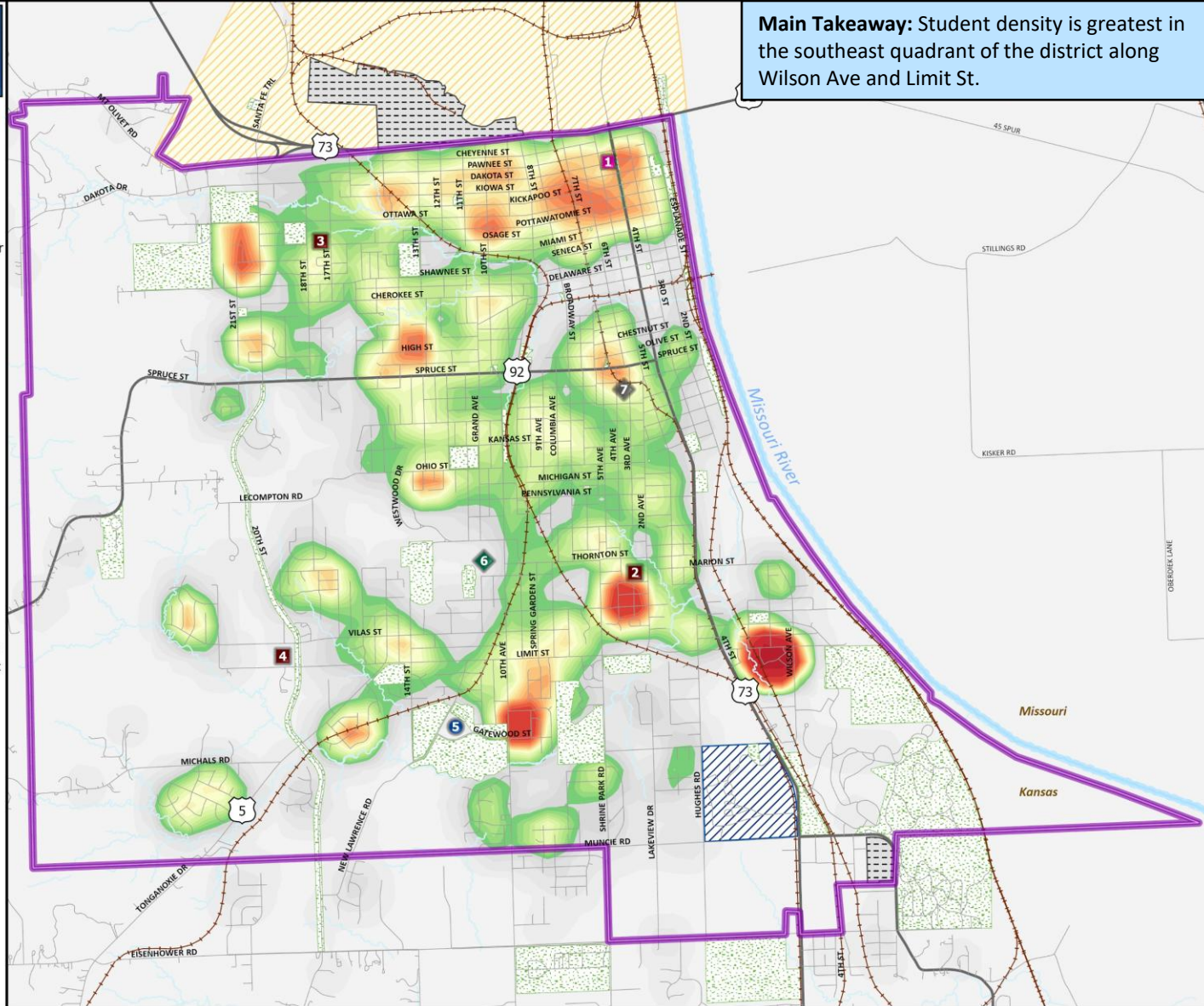
Student "Heat" is determined by calculating the number of students that are clustered within close proximity of one another. Overlapping of points (2 or more students residing at the same address) are handled using a weighting of coincident points. This weighted data is calculated by relational distance, which helps to visually depict the areas of high student clustering.

List of Schools

1. Earl Lawson Early Education Center
2. Anthony Elementary
3. David Brewer Elementary
4. Henry Leavenworth Elementary
5. Richard Warren Educational Campus
6. Leavenworth High
7. Nettie Hartnett Education Center

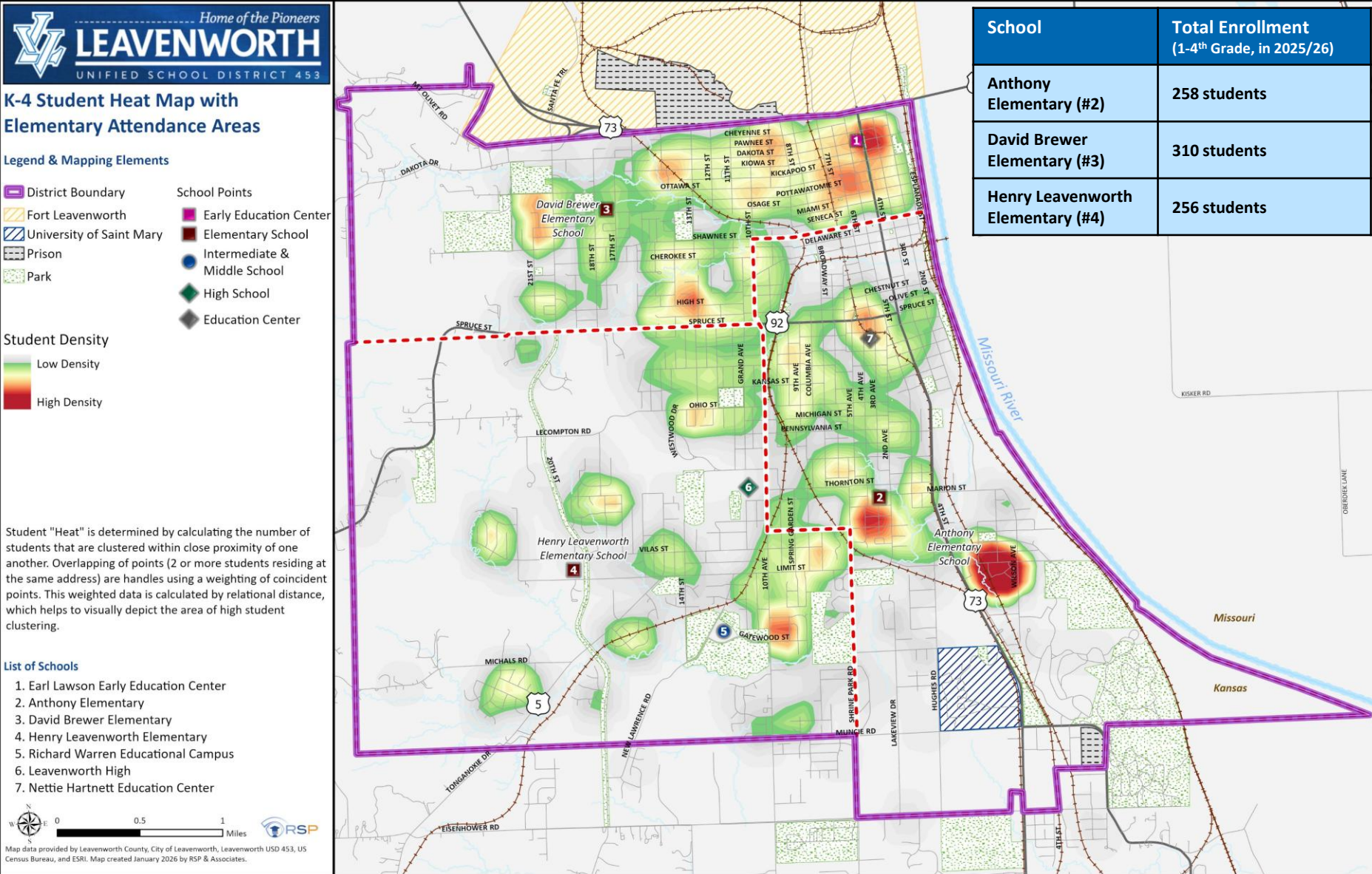


Map data provided by Leavenworth County, City of Leavenworth, Leavenworth USD 453, US Census Bureau, and ESRI. Map created January 2026 by RSP & Associates.



Main Takeaway: Student density is greatest in the southeast quadrant of the district along Wilson Ave and Limit St.

Elementary Student Density Heat Map





Part 1 Conclusions

Main Takeaway Observations:

- Enrollment has been declining steadily over the past five years – **limitation to student growth**
 - The District decreased by 173 students from last year enrolling a total of 3,089 students
- Most grade levels are shrinking in size as cohorts move through the system – **limitation to student growth**
 - With limited cohort growth, the continued downward trend in total enrollment is likely to continue
- Graduating senior classes remain larger than incoming kindergarten classes – **limitation to student growth**
 - Enrolling larger senior classes than Kdg classes contributes to a long-term imbalance in student replacement rates.
- Live births in Leavenworth County have declined – **limitation to student growth**
 - Since 2019 there have been less than 1,000 births per year correlating with a decreasing total population under the age of 5
 - Kindergarten market share of students has been decreasing; 2025/26 Kdg class resulted in a 17.2% market share of 2019 live births (lowest since 2020/21)
- The district tends have more student migrating out of than new students migrating in – **limitation to student growth**
 - In-migration increases at the high school level correlating with the out of district in-flux of students from 8th to 9th grade

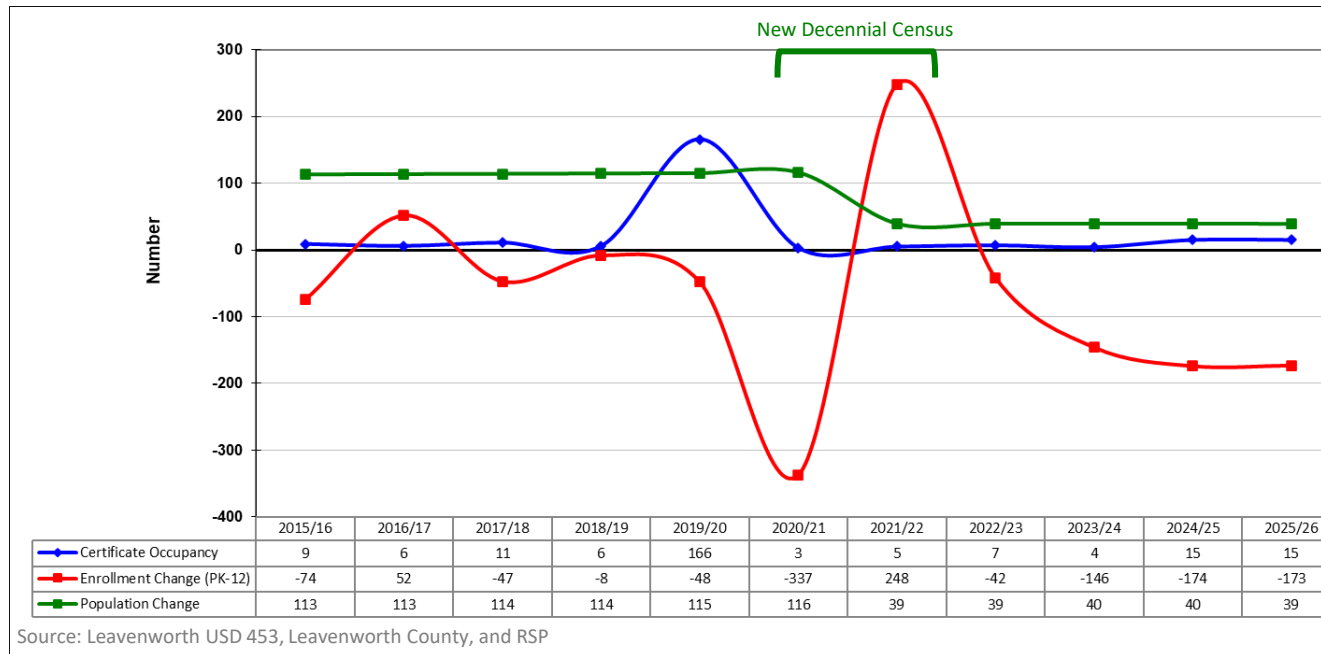
Conclusion of Section:

- RSP & Associates actively monitors over 170 planning areas, using demographic, development, and enrollment datasets to provide ongoing insight and forecasting.
- The highest student population density is in the southeast corner of the district near Anthony Elementary.
- Open enrollment trends should be continually reviewed, as even minor policy shifts can have an impact on enrollment outlook. Recent years have shown a decline in out-of-district enrollment, limiting the district's ability to rely on this variable for enrollment stability or growth.
 - Student choice trends (Open Enrollment, Virtual, Charter, etc.) should continually be analyzed as changes state policy have impact on enrollment outlook.
- Turnover at Fort Leavenworth may influence enrollment migration trends, as officers typically serve assignments of two to four years, though this can vary based on individual postings.

Part Two: Development and Growth Trends



Population, Development, & Enrollment



Observations:

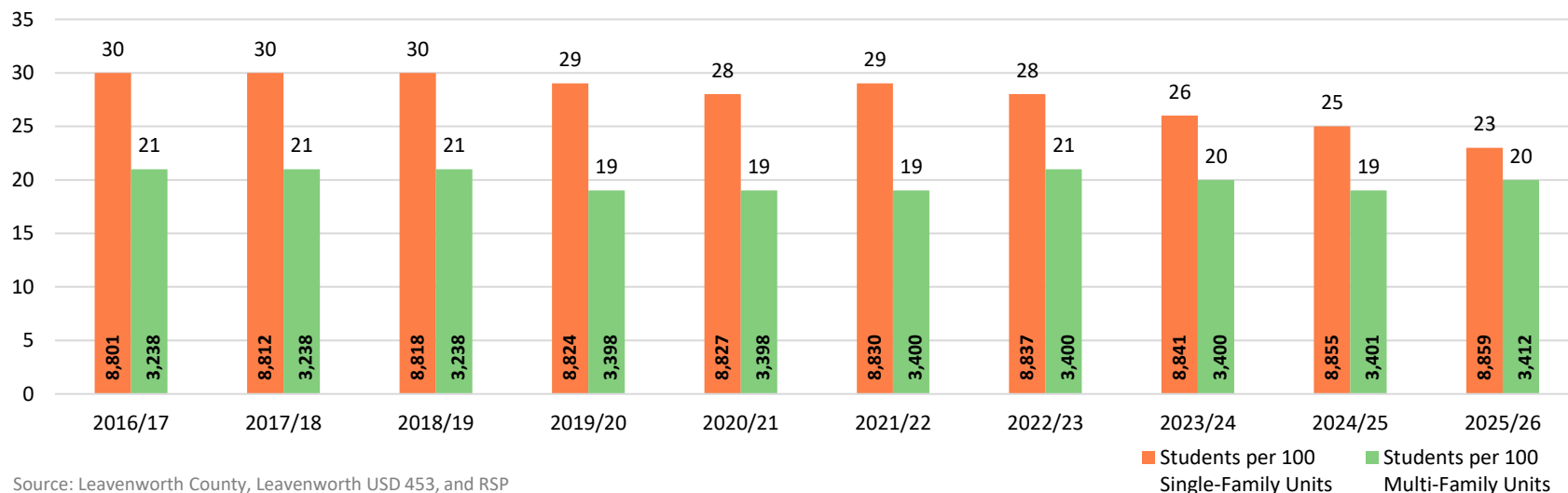
- **BLUE LINE:** Building activity has been increasing minimal the past ten years; 2019/20 saw the latest spike in activity with development of redevelopment of Station Lofts
 - Building data is sourced from certificates of occupancy, which may be delayed due to reporting timelines at the county level.
- **GREEN LINE:** Census data indicates a stable population – the past five years population has grown by about 40 people annually
 - Population shows the estimate growth of the whole decade; new decennial census often affect year-to-year change
- **RED LINE:** Student enrollment has been generally decreasing year to year
 - 2020/21 saw a greater decrease in students following by an enrollment recovery in 2021/22
 - Since 2021/22, enrollment has been decreasing year to year with loss of 493 students during these three years

Main Takeaway: Graphic provides benchmark data to determine if there is a correlation between population change, building activity, and school enrollment. As population and building activity remain limited, enrollment decreases will likely continue.

K-12 Yield Rate Comparison Over Time



Yield Rate Comparison Graph



Observations

- Bar graph shows the number of students per 100 units by year and by housing unit type (single-family or multi-family)
- District sees on average 27.8 K-12 students per 100 single-family households (8,859 total SF units)
 - The yield rate for single-family units has been decreasing over time; 2025/26 yielded 23 students per 100 SF units
- District sees on average 20.0 K-12 students per 100 multi-family households (3,412 total MF units)
 - The yield rate for multi-family units has been stable over time; 2025/26 yielded 20 students per 100 MF units
- Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rates:
 - There were **58 single-family homes** built from 2016 to 2025
 - There were **174 multi-family homes** built from 2016 to 2025

Main Takeaway: As more multi-family housing has been built, the generation of students from these units has stabilized. Single-family units are yielding fewer students per unit, limiting the outlook on future household change.

Yield Rate by Elementary Boundary

Table Legend

+3 greater from District Average

-3 fewer from District Average

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average	Units Built in Time Period	Total Units (2025)
Anthony Elementary	27	25	25	24	23	25	24	23	21	20	23.7	11	2,556
David Brewer Elementary	30	29	29	29	28	29	29	28	25	25	28.1	12	3,066
Henry Leavenworth Elementary	34	35	34	34	32	32	29	27	26	24	30.7	35	3,237
District (K-4):	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0	28.0	29.0	28.0	26.0	25.0	23.0	27.8	58	8,859

Source: Leavenworth County, Leavenworth USD 453, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 single-family units. Single-family units include houses that may be fully detached or semi-detached and occupied by one household or family.

Single-Family Observations: Table shows the number of students per 100 single-family (SF) units by year and by elementary boundary

- District sees on average 27.8 students per 100 SF units (total inventory of 8,859 SF units)
 - David Brewer Elementary has the largest 2025/26 SF yield rate with 25 students per 100 SF units
 - Anthony Elementary has the smallest 2025/26 SF yield rate with 20 students per 100 SF units
- Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 58 single-family homes built from 2016 to 2025**
 - **The SF yield rate has been decreasing over the past ten year indicating there has been lack of turnover in existing neighborhoods**

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average	Units Built in Time Period	Total Units (2025)
Anthony Elementary	21	21	21	19	20	21	24	21	20	19	20.7	12	1,798
David Brewer Elementary	20	20	19	19	17	18	17	19	20	21	19	162	1,041
Henry Leavenworth Elementary	23	23	21	21	19	17	18	17	17	20	19.6	0	573
District (K-4):	21.0	21.0	21.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	21.0	20.0	19.0	20.0	20.0	174	3,412

Source: Leavenworth County, Leavenworth USD 453, and RSP

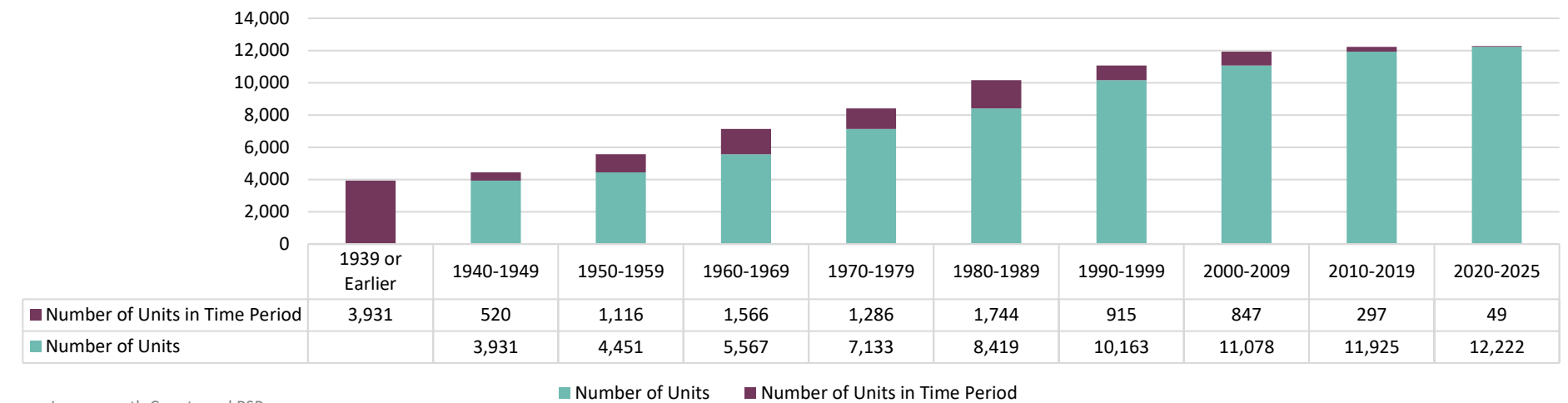
Note: Includes number of students per 100 multi-family units. Multi-family units include apartment, duplex, mixed-use, mobile home, townhome, etc. units.

Multi-Family Observations: Table shows the number of students per 100 multi-family (MF) units by year and by elementary boundary

- District sees on average 20.0 students per 100 MF units (total inventory of 3,412 MF units)
 - David Brewer Elementary has the largest 2025/26 MF yield rate with 21 students per 100 MF units
 - Anthony Elementary has the smallest 2025/26 MF yield rate with 19 students per 100 MF units
- Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 174 multi-family homes built from 2016 to 2025**
 - **The MF yield has been more stable over time indicating the new MF developments likely have supported student-generating families**

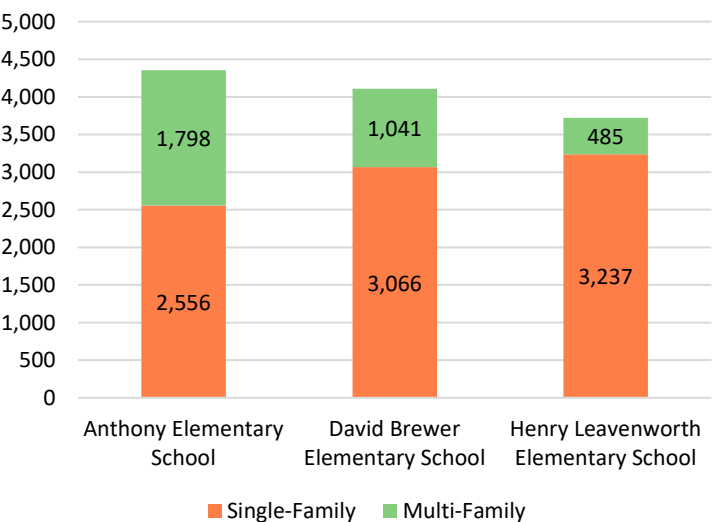
District Residential Inventory

New V.S. Existing Units by Decade Built (All Types)



Source: Leavenworth County and RSP

2025 Total Units by Type and Elementary



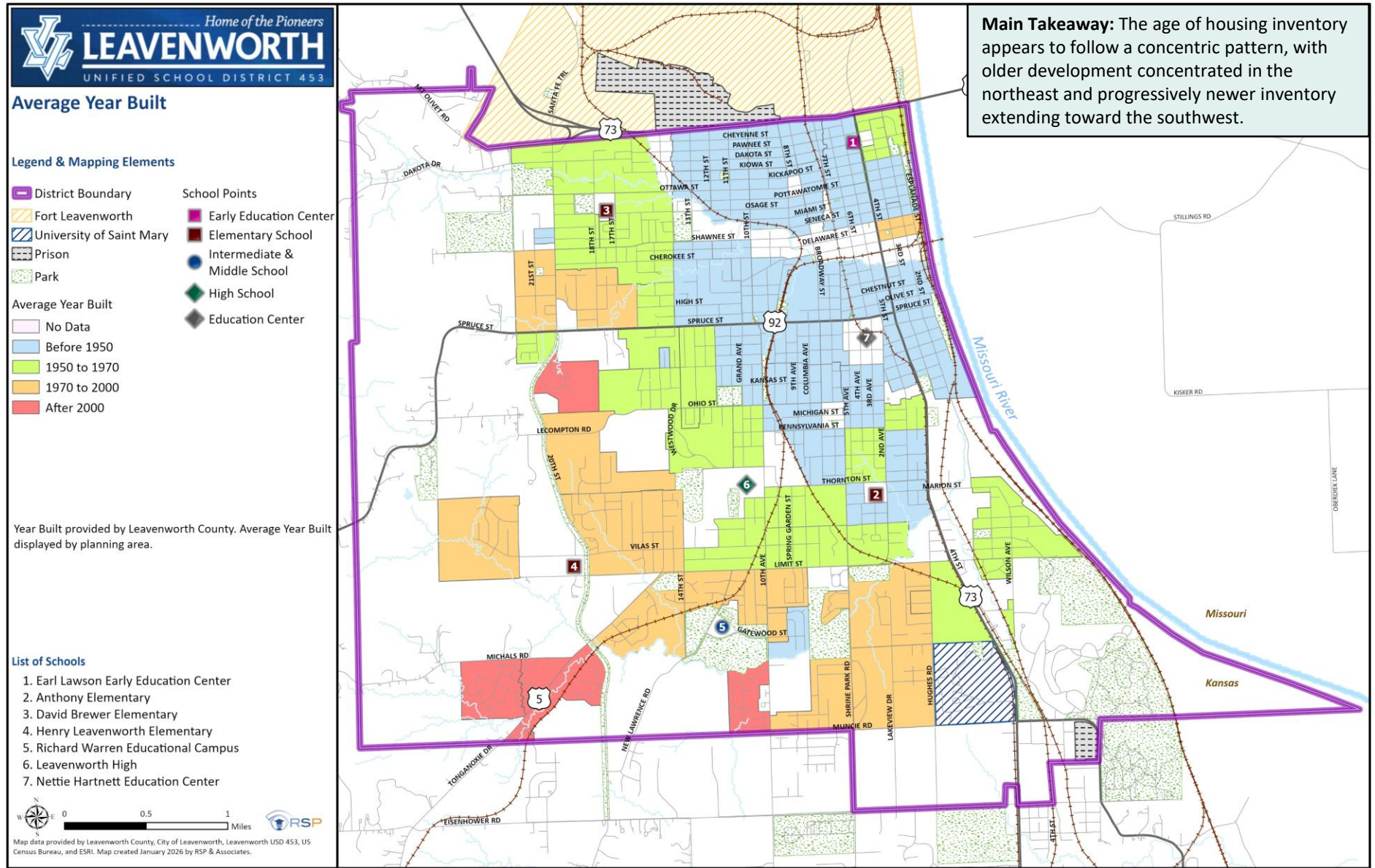
Source: Leavenworth County and RSP

Observations

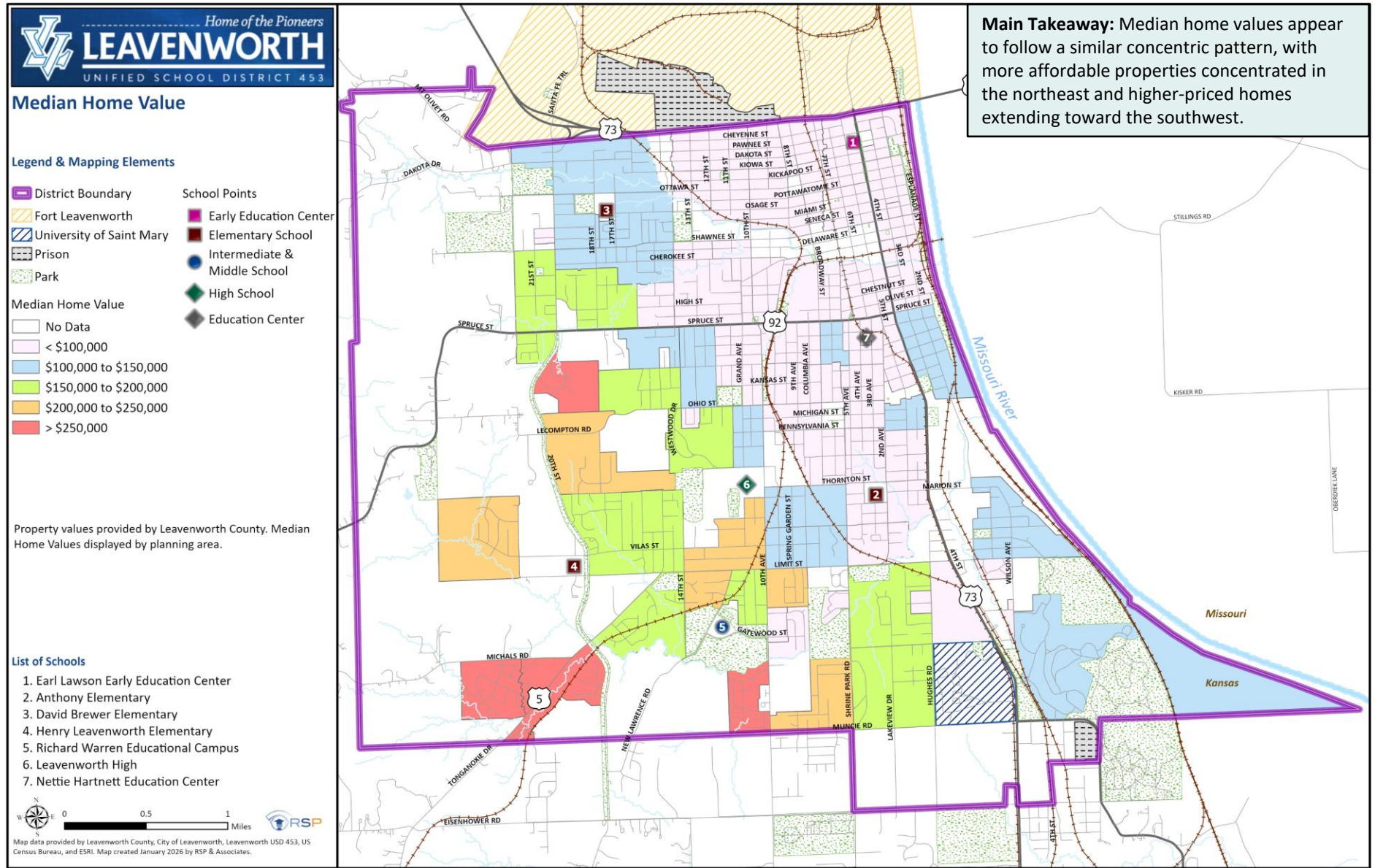
- Bar graphs illustrate the number of units built per decade and the number of current units by type that currently reside in each elementary school boundary
 - There has been limited residential development the past twenty-five years
- After the 1940s, the decade with the most units built was 1980 to 1989
 - Five years into the current decade, there have been 49 units built
 - Development activity increasing from the current pace is crucial for enrollment growth to occur
- Anthony Elementary boundary has the most SF and MF units in its boundary
 - There has been more multi-family development in the past ten years than single-family development

Main Takeaway: The boundaries that have the most units do not have the greatest yield rates. Other factors like affordability, square footage, access to amenities, etc. have a greater impact on whether new units are likely student generating.

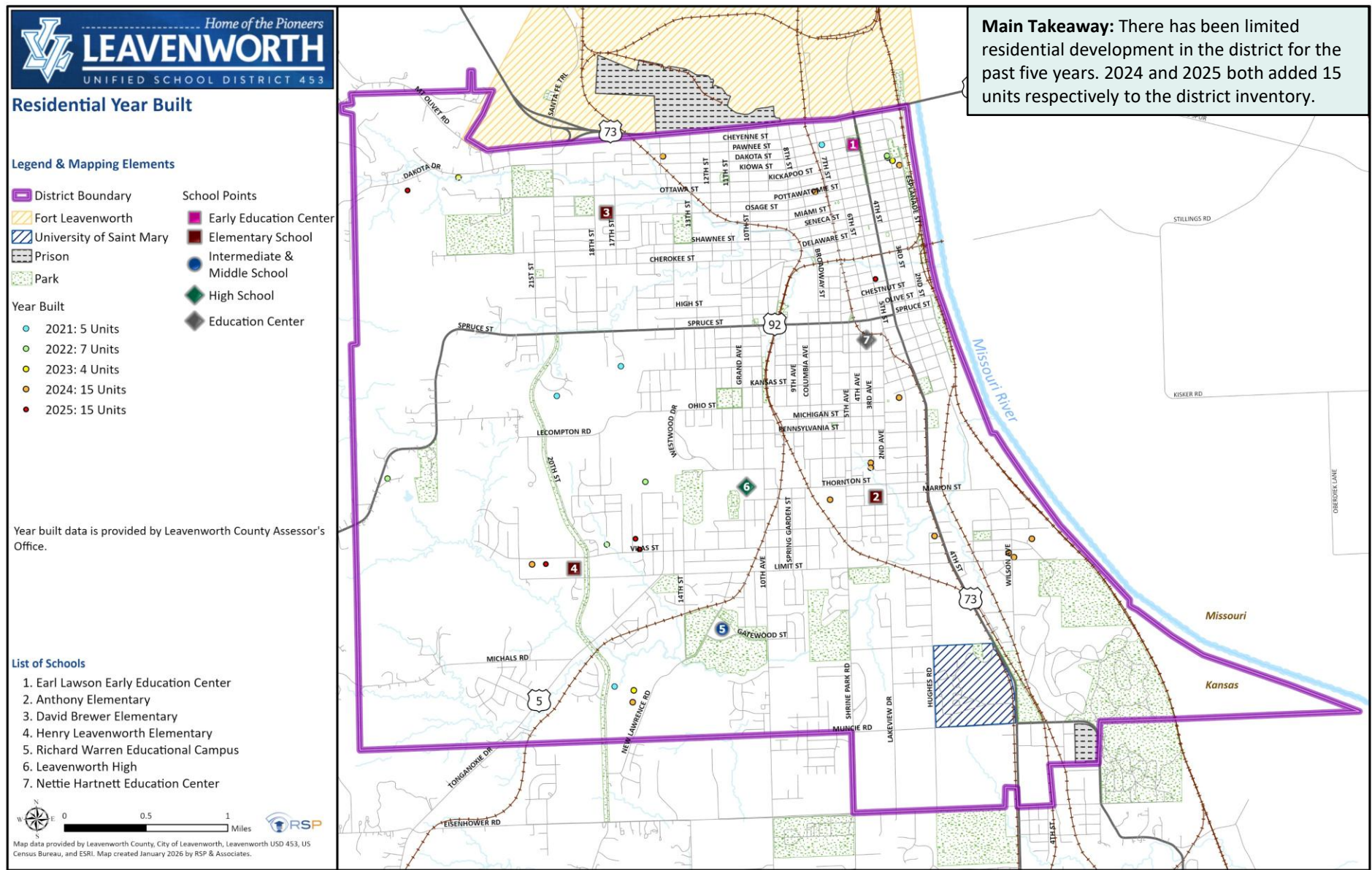
Average Year Built Map



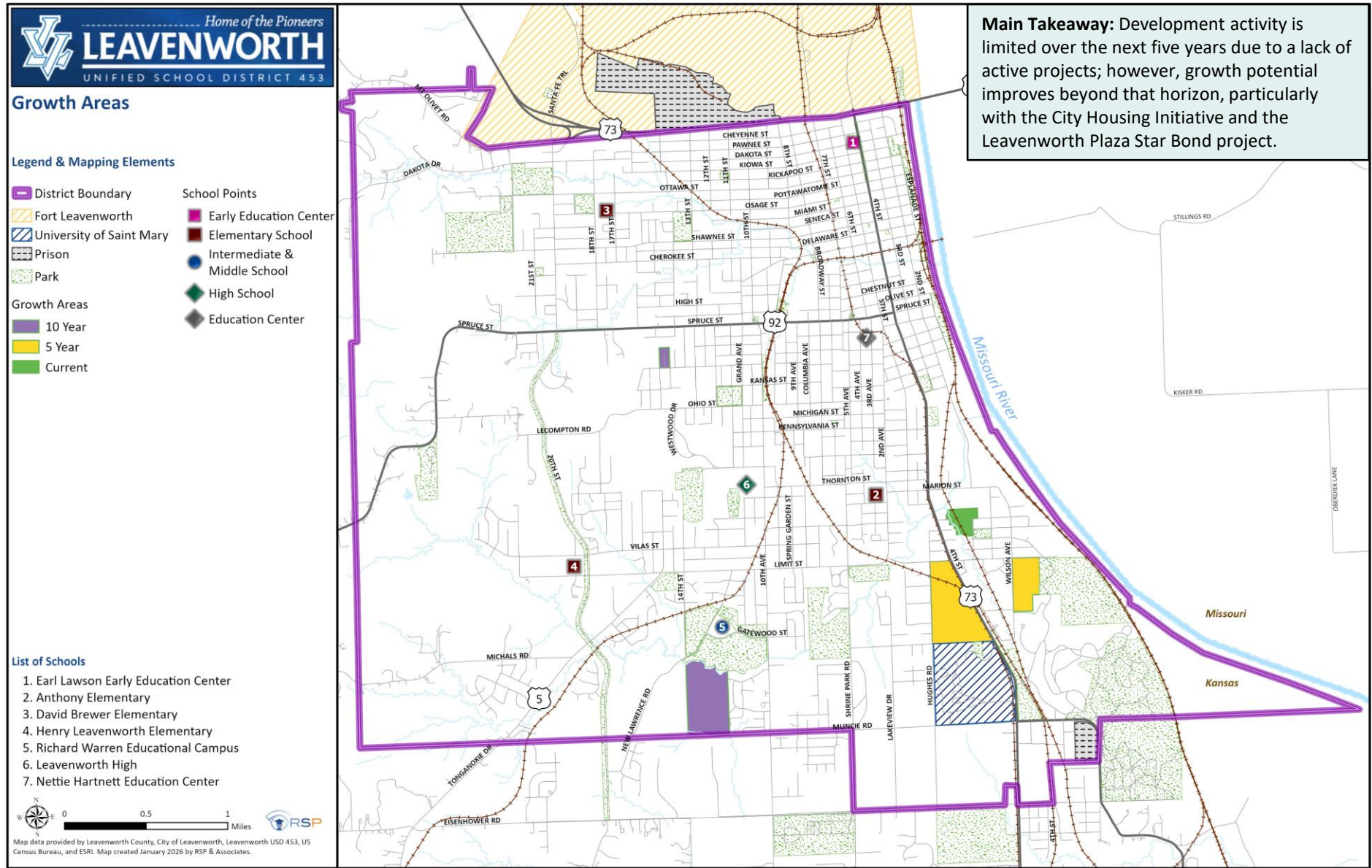
Median Home Value Map



Recent Year Built Map



Growth Area Map



Development Table

Disclaimer: "Timing of Growth Areas" are general estimates indicating phase of development status: some current projects may continue to develop for 5+ years and 5 to 10 Year potential projects may happen faster or slower than stated in table

RSP Plan Area Name: Identified Growth Areas	Current Development Type	Timing of Growth	Existing Units	Potential Units	Elementary Boundary
Helmer's Building Redevelopment	Multi-Family	Current	0	115	Anthony ES
Future Ad Astra Development (North)	Single-Family	5 Year	0	120	Anthony ES
Former Leavenworth Plaza STAR Redevelopment	Mixed-Use	5 Year	2	250	Anthony ES
Adams Valley	Single-Family	5 Year	1	18	Henry Leavenworth ES
Future Ad Astra Development (South)	Single-Family	5 Year	0	165	Henry Leavenworth ES
Whispering Hills	Single-Family	5 Year	135	25	Henry Leavenworth ES
South of Dolsberry Sub	Agriculture	10 Year	0	115	Henry Leavenworth ES
South of Oakwood Estates	Agriculture	10 Year	0	125	Henry Leavenworth ES
Fairway Hills Golf Course	Single-Family	10 Year	0	115	Henry Leavenworth ES
Shannon Woods Sub	Single-Family	10 Year	37	50	Henry Leavenworth ES
Current Growth Area Potential:			0	115	
5-Year Growth Area Potential:			138	578	
10-Year Growth Area Potential:			37	405	
Total Growth Area Potential:			175	1,098	

Source: City of Leavenworth and RSP

Observations:

- Growth areas are created from existing land use, future land use, capital improvement plan, zoning, and city staff input
 - **Green:** identifies where development activity is happening
 - **Yellow:** identifies possible areas that could develop within a 5-year range
 - **Purple:** identifies possible areas that could develop within a 10-year range
- There is no guarantee any of these growth areas will develop or that other areas not shown as a growth area will develop
 - The market demand and property owners desire to build guides the timing and type of development
 - Some growth areas may require infrastructure improvements
- Helmer's Building Redevelopment is currently in the process of acquiring historic preservation funding to assist in the redevelopment process
- Growth area distributed between Anthony and Henry Leavenworth elementary boundaries; David Brewer boundary does not have any identified development potential in the existing boundary

Regional Project Spotlight

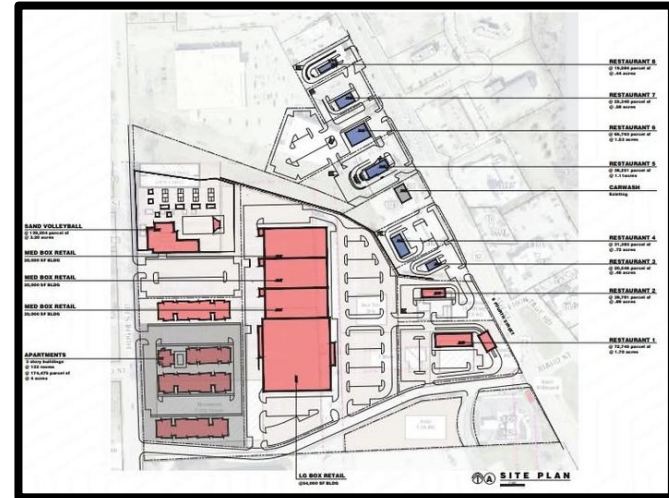


Leavenworth Plaza STAR Bond Project

- Redevelops the *former Leavenworth Plaza Mall* and adjacent sites into a **regional mixed-use tourism, retail, dining, entertainment, and possible residential district**.
- Uses **STAR Bonds** to finance infrastructure and development by capturing incremental sales tax revenue within the district.
- The envisioned redevelopment is **mixed use**, with potential components including:
 - Restaurants and retail of various scales
 - Entertainment venues, attractions, and hotels
 - Possibly **multi-family residential** elements
- Aims to turn a long-vacant blighted site into a **regional economic engine**, attracting visitors and new jobs while increasing taxable activity.
- Process is underway, with **feasibility studies, state review, public hearings, and future City Commission approvals** required before full implementation.'

Kansas City Chiefs Stadium Relocation:

- The new stadium and surrounding entertainment district are expected to generate **approximately \$1 billion in annual regional economic impact**, increasing visitor traffic and spending that can benefit businesses across the KC metro area, including Leavenworth County.
- **Construction activity** (estimated at **20,000+ jobs**) and **permanent year-round stadium and entertainment jobs** will create employment opportunities accessible to Leavenworth County residents.
- Long term, the stadium may strengthen the Kansas City metro's attractiveness, supporting **population growth and workforce in-migration**, which could indirectly influence **school enrollment trends** in Leavenworth County.



Source:

<https://www.leavenworthks.gov/citymanager/page/questions-answered-about-proposed-star-bond-project-former-leavenworth-plaza-site>
<https://johnsoncountypost.com/2025/12/22/kansas-city-chiefs-wyandotte-county-276623/>



Part 2 Conclusions

Main Takeaway Observations:

- The general population within the district boundaries has been stable – **limitation to enrollment growth**
 - With an average growth of about 40 residents per year, this trend does signal an impact on enrollment growth as general population is aging and having fewer children.
- Single-family student yield rates have been steadily decreasing over the past decade – **limitation to enrollment growth**
 - Decreasing and stable yield rates limit the ability of new housing development to offset overall enrollment decline.
 - Tracking the type and location of development is critical, as student yield rates vary widely between housing product types and across neighborhoods.
- Overall building activity has been stable with limited new construction – **limitation to enrollment growth**
 - The recent new constructions are positive variables, but not enough to significantly shift enrollment projections.
 - In 2025, there were 4 single-family and 11 multi-family units added to district inventory
- Outlook of economic and residential growth is positive with over 1,000 housing units identified for potential development
 - There is greater potential for long-term growth – RSP recommends following the Leavenworth Plaza Site closely for more information on timing, unit production, and population impact.

Conclusion of Section:

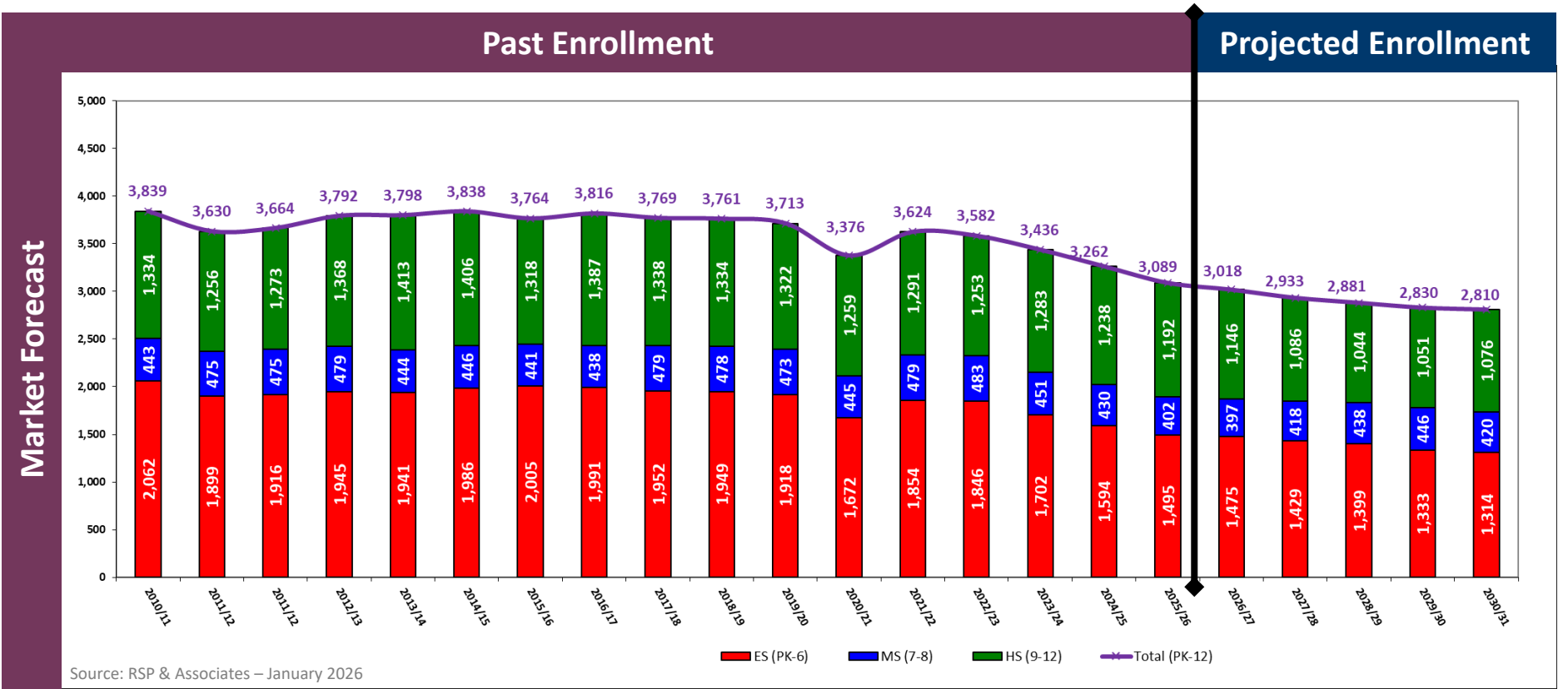
- With lower yield rates, new residential development has a more limited impact on student enrollment than in previous decades, reinforcing the need for a conservative growth model in planning.
- Monitoring local economic factors is key to understanding how the next decade of residential growth may unfold.
Considerations include:
 - Construction costs have more than doubled (100%+) since August 2020, as of February 2022.
 - Rising home values may slow the life cycle of new single-family subdivisions, delaying occupancy and student generation.
 - Infrastructure availability (roads, utilities, school proximity) and affordability of housing products remain critical in determining where and how fast new development occurs.
- National-level influences (economic shifts during the 2025 election year) could affect development pace and, in turn, enrollment outlook. Additionally, natural disasters across the country (e.g., hurricanes, wildfires) have begun to affect building supply chains and cost structures, which may slow down or limit residential development in the region.

Part Three: Enrollment Projections





Past, Current, & Future Enrollment



- Observations:** Enrollment is forecasted to continue decreasing over the next five years
- ↓ **Total District** enrollment is forecasted to decrease to total **2,810 students** by 2030/31 (-279 students, -9.0%)
 - ↓ **Elementary and Intermediate** enrollment is forecasted to decrease to total **1,314 students** by 2030/31 (+181 students, -12%)
 - ↑ **Middle School** enrollment is forecasted to increase to total **420 students** by 2030/31 (+18 students, +4.5%)
 - ↓ **High School** enrollment is forecasted to decrease to total **1,076 students** by 2030/31 (-116 students, +9.7%)

Main Takeaway: Overall enrollment is projected to continue a **gradual decline** through 2030/31, driven primarily by sustained decreases at the elementary level that are not fully offset by high school cohort growth. While enrollment **stabilizes in the later years**, the district is expected to operate at a smaller total enrollment level, with **implications for long-term capacity planning, staffing, and program alignment**.

Projection Notes and Clarifications

Past Enrollment is shown three ways:

1. **Reside:** Based on where a student Resides in relation to the district boundary
2. **Attend:** Based on both a student residing in the district and attending and students not residing in the district attending
3. **Reside/Attend:** Subset of reside to know how many of Reside students attend the school based on the attendance area they are assigned to

Projections are shown two ways:

1. **Reside:** Based on where a student Resides in relation to the district boundary
2. **Attend:** Based on both a student residing in the district and attending and students not residing in the district attending

Capacity

- Building capacity was provided by the District for school facilities
 - Capacity should be annually examined to ensure appropriate education space is available for students
- Utilization shading is based on RSP Best Planning Practices:
 - **Orange** illustrates when enrollment is greater than the Operational Capacity (Above 100%)
 - **Green** illustrate when enrollment is less than 70% of the Operation Capacity

Other Items

- Enrollment Grade Configuration in Student Forecast Model (PK-K, 1-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12)
- Open Enrollment / Out of District student trends are assumed to follow District policy and follow similar trends as the last few years
- Projection accuracy is limited by the number of years of student data which matches the State enrollment
- Housing challenges that may result in a slowdown in new housing starts and challenges with the economy as it adapts to a “New Normal” of supply challenges, cost increases, and other housing policy changes

Projections by Elementary Building

School Utilization Legend

Under 70% Operational Capacity

Over 100% Operational Capacity

Market Forecast

Leavenworth Unified School District 453 Projections By School (Based on Student Reside)

School	Capacity	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment				Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years)					Projected Change
	Operational		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	
Earl Lawson Early Learning Center PK-K	429	Reside/Attend	357	289	291	257						1.6%
		Reside	357	289	291	257	279	269	287	267	261	
		Attend	357	289	291	257	279	269	287	267	261	
Anthony Elementary School 1-4	586	Reside/Attend	270	251	248	222						-7.0%
		Reside	335	325	294	272	256	247	245	246	253	
		Attend	303	294	272	258	243	225	223	224	231	
David Brewer Elementary School 1-4	592	Reside/Attend	316	291	294	274						-17.0%
		Reside	358	343	330	306	292	272	264	257	254	
		Attend	362	338	319	310	295	268	260	253	250	
Henry Leavenworth Elementary School 1-4	617	Reside/Attend	289	268	255	222						-18.3%
		Reside	311	291	268	246	216	202	194	196	201	
		Attend	339	327	301	256	226	228	220	222	227	
Leavenworth Intermediate School 5-6	407	Reside/Attend	484	454	411	414						-16.7%
		Reside	484	454	411	414	432	439	409	367	345	
		Attend	484	454	411	414	432	439	409	367	345	
Richard Warren Middle School 7-8	636	Reside/Attend	483	451	430	402						4.5%
		Reside	483	451	430	402	397	418	438	446	420	
		Attend	483	451	430	402	397	418	438	446	420	
Leavenworth High School 9-12	1,734	Reside/Attend	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192						-9.7%
		Reside	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192	1,146	1,086	1,044	1,051	1,076	
		Attend	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192	1,146	1,086	1,044	1,051	1,076	
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TOTAL PK- K, 1- 4, 5- 6	2,631	Reside/Attend	1,716	1,553	1,499	1,389						-12.1%
		Reside	1,845	1,702	1,594	1,495	1,475	1,429	1,399	1,333	1,314	
		Attend	1,845	1,702	1,594	1,495	1,475	1,429	1,399	1,333	1,314	
MIDDLE SCHOOL TOTAL 7-8	636	Reside/Attend	483	451	430	402						4.5%
		Reside	483	451	430	402	397	418	438	446	420	
		Attend	483	451	430	402	397	418	438	446	420	
HIGH SCHOOL TOTAL 9-12	1,734	Reside/Attend	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192						-9.7%
		Reside	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192	1,146	1,086	1,044	1,051	1,076	
		Attend	1,253	1,283	1,238	1,192	1,146	1,086	1,044	1,051	1,076	
DISTRICT TOTALS PK to 12th	5,001	Reside/Attend	3,452	3,287	3,167	2,983						-9.0%
		Reside	3,581	3,436	3,262	3,089	3,018	2,933	2,881	2,830	2,810	
		Attend	3,581	3,436	3,262	3,089	3,018	2,933	2,881	2,830	2,810	

Source: RSP & Associates, LLC - January 2026

Note 1: Student Projections are based on the residence of the student.

Note 2: The Enrollment Model is based on a Head count of students by Planning Area at each facility

Note 3: Transfers between Facilities are shown with Attend Projections

Note 4: The Enrollment Model assumes ES(PK-K, 1-4, 5-6) MS(7-8) and HS (9-12)

Note 5: Each planning area is assigned the 2025/26 boundary

Note 6: School capacity provided by Leavenworth Unified School District 453

Note 7: Reside is based on the student home address

Note 8: Attend is based on which facility the student attends

Note 9: Res/Att (Reside/Attend) are the students who reside in the attendance area that they have chosen to attend

Observations:

- Capacity challenges are expected continue at Leavenworth Intermediate until 2029/30, when enrollment decreases to less than 400 students
- All other facilities in the district remain below their capacities

Main Takeaway: Throughout the next five years, enrollment is forecasted to be below 70% of district-wide capacity.



Projected Enrollment by Grade

Enrollment By Grade

															PK-12			K-12		
Year	PK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total	Change	% Change	Total	Change	% Change
2010/11	174	263	273	208	263	233	243	242	241	234	262	379	293	322	3,630	-209	-5.4%	3,456	-190	-5.2%
2011/12	243	211	253	273	230	249	227	230	240	235	287	339	354	293	3,664	34	0.9%	3,421	-35	-1.0%
2012/13	181	290	267	250	262	231	243	221	228	251	299	367	339	363	3,792	128	3.5%	3,611	190	5.6%
2013/14	184	289	274	240	255	264	210	225	212	232	334	351	367	361	3,798	6	0.2%	3,614	3	0.1%
2014/15	190	269	289	278	249	245	256	210	236	210	328	372	346	360	3,838	40	1.1%	3,648	34	0.9%
2015/16	155	279	280	267	264	263	250	247	196	245	292	353	340	333	3,764	-74	-1.9%	3,609	-39	-1.1%
2016/17	151	283	281	260	267	260	245	244	241	197	345	335	365	342	3,816	52	1.4%	3,665	56	1.6%
2017/18	140	280	269	267	240	263	256	237	234	245	298	367	317	356	3,769	-47	-1.2%	3,629	-36	-1.0%
2018/19	137	256	272	256	271	253	247	257	238	240	339	330	349	316	3,761	-8	-0.2%	3,624	-5	-0.1%
2019/20	154	230	245	275	261	265	248	240	243	230	306	361	317	338	3,713	-48	-1.3%	3,559	-65	-1.8%
2020/21	113	219	211	228	224	228	232	217	212	233	288	329	339	303	3,376	-337	-9.1%	3,263	-296	-8.3%
2021/22	134	253	257	234	235	243	248	250	235	244	299	352	307	333	3,624	248	7.3%	3,490	227	7.0%
2022/23	117	245	270	256	241	232	249	236	247	236	304	337	325	287	3,582	-42	-1.2%	3,465	-25	-0.7%
2023/24	98	193	244	243	244	226	217	237	216	235	329	337	315	302	3,436	-146	-4.1%	3,338	-127	-3.7%
2024/25	103	189	199	230	231	231	216	195	219	211	314	326	306	292	3,262	-174	-5.1%	3,159	-179	-5.4%
2025/26	84	174	186	192	2.4	221	213	201	196	206	273	330	297	292	3,089	-173	-5.3%	3,005	-154	-4.9%
2026/27	94	186	172	183	194	222	222	212	204	193	270	296	298	282	3,028	-61	-2.0%	2,934	-71	-2.4%
2027/28	91	179	185	168	182	192	221	220	220	198	245	289	267	285	2,942	-86	-2.8%	2,851	-83	-2.8%
2028/29	106	183	179	182	166	180	192	220	223	215	262	272	256	254	2,890	-52	-1.8%	2,784	-67	-2.4%
2029/30	96	171	183	175	181	164	180	189	230	216	276	292	240	243	2,836	-54	-1.9%	2,740	-44	-1.6%
2030/31	94	169	173	180	177	182	166	179	196	224	279	309	258	230	2,816	-20	-0.7%	2,722	-18	-0.7%

Source: Kansas Department of Education and Leavenworth Unified School District 453 (2009/10 to 2025/26)

Observations:

- Kdg cohorts below 200 students represent a structural challenge, limiting the district’s ability to stabilize or grow enrollment
 - PK remains relatively flat, fluctuating between approximately 90-100 students per year, providing limited offset to small kindergarten classes.
- Total enrollment is forecasted to decline by approximately 1-2% annually, with greater stabilization projected in the later years.
- District enrollment is projected to fall below 3,000 students in 2027/28, marking a key inflection point in the forecast.

Facility Planning Thoughts for 5-Year Outlook (2030/31)

Current Grade Configuration (PK-K, 1-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12)	Potential New Grade Configuration (PK-K, 1-5, 6-8, 9-12) DRAFT
PK-K: 261 students (429 Capacity)	PK-K: 261 students (429 Capacity)
1-4: 708 students (1,795 Capacity)	1-5: 874 students (1,795 Capacity)
5-6: 345 students (407 Capacity)	--
7-8: 420 students (636 Capacity)	6-8: 599 students (636 Capacity)
9-12: 1,076 students (1,734 Capacity)	9-12: 1,076 students (1,734 Capacity)
<i>PK-12 Total: 2,810 students</i>	<i>PK-12 Total: 2,810 students</i>

Source: RSP and Leavenworth USD 453

IMPORTANT: **Potential New Grade Configuration** provides a review of enrollment and capacity if 5th and 6th grade were redistributed (DRAFT). The Intermediate School Capacity is removed from this outlook.



Part 3 Conclusions



Main Takeaway Observations: Due to district-wide constraints, overall enrollment is projected to decline over the next five years.

- All elementary schools are projected to experience **enrollment declines**, with Anthony Elementary declining at the slowest rate and Henry Leavenworth Elementary declining at the fastest rate.
 - Enrollment at Earl Lawson ELC is expected to **remain stable**, at approximately **260-280 students**.
- The Intermediate School is projected to **increase initially**, then **decline between 2028/29 and 2030/31**, resolving current overutilization by 2029/30.
- Middle school enrollment is projected to **increase from approximately 400 students, peaking at 446 students in 2029/30**.
- High school enrollment is projected to **decline overall**, reaching its **lowest point in 2028/29**, with a **slight increase** in the final two years of the forecast.

IMPORTANT: While current data indicates enrollment declines, these trends are **not expected to persist indefinitely**. Enrollment naturally fluctuates over time – evolving variables can attract **new families back to the district**. As conditions change, periods of stabilization or growth are likely to follow, **reinforcing the importance of maintaining flexibility in long-term planning**.

Conclusion of Section:

- Continuing to annually monitor the items in this report (live births, state policies, yield rates, building rates, etc.)
 - Recent natural disasters throughout the country (East Coast Hurricane, West Coast Forest Fires, etc.) may impact the speed and cost of building activity limiting the outlook of residential development projects
- RSP enrollment forecasting is based on the best-known information at the time
 - Recent economic indicators have been in-flux (interest rates, housing prices, supply chain)
 - Live birth data continues to be lower than it has been in the last decade which will impact future kindergarten enrollment
 - Potential changes to state or national policy with 2025 President Election may impact the enrollment outlook
- Utilize the enrollment model to assist with planning for staffing needs at each facility for the following school year which will address how quickly areas are “Regreening” and “Emerging”
 - The type of residential development and how affordable it is will determine the likely location and number of students
 - Utilizing current student density, count change visuals and potential developments, RSP has calculated the likely subdivision lifecycle for neighborhoods and their generation of students

Part Four: Next Steps





Annually Review and Update Projected Enrollment Outlook

- ❑ Enrollment is forecasted to **continue decreasing over the next five years**; continued evaluation of enrollment each year will enhance decision-making.
- ❑ By 2030/31, enrollment is projected to **total 2,810 students**, illustrating a 9.0% loss of students (1-3% annual losses).
- ❑ **Future analyses will continue to expand on variables in-flux** and provide greater detail on demographic changes in the community.

ACTION: It is strongly recommended that the district review the enrollment outlook for the 2026/27 school year to evaluate projection accuracy and assess changes in key student variables.



Optimize Facility Use and Right-Size Enrollment

- ❑ Enrollment trends indicate growing **under-utilization** across several facilities, creating opportunities and challenges for **improving operational efficiency**.
- ❑ Evaluating buildings through a **right-sizing and efficiency lens** will support informed discussions about how schools are operated, including **potential adjustments to attendance boundaries, grade configurations, program locations, or the use of entire facilities**.
- ❑ This analysis is one step to identifying where enrollment imbalances exist, where capacity exceeds demand, and where strategic changes could reduce inefficiencies while maintaining equitable access to programs and services for students.

ACTION: Conduct a **comprehensive Facility Utilization and Efficiency Analysis** to evaluate how enrollment, boundaries, grade configurations, and building operations can be aligned to improve efficiency, address under-utilization, and support long-term district sustainability.



Communicate Results with the General Public

- ❑ Integrate findings into any potential **future facility planning endeavors**; Future programming and building plans will impact household choices.
- ❑ Create targeted marketing strategies to **inform households** about the extensive educational programs available within the District.

ACTION: Expand resources for community outreach and information transparency to prepare community for potential changes in school enrollment

Appendix

Demographic Summary



Population

Percent Change of Annual Rate

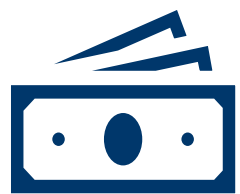
2000 to 2010: 0.15%
2010 to 2020: 0.41%
2020 to 2025: 0.14%
2025 to 2030: 0.26%



Housing

Percent Change of Annual Rate of Housing Inventory

2000 to 2010: -0.56%
2010 to 2020: 0.52%
2020 to 2025: 0.66%
2025 to 2030: 0.50%



Income

Median Household Income
Forecasted Percent Change

2025: \$65,283
2030: \$69,600
2025 to 2030: 1.29%



Workforce

Key Variables

4.5% unemployment
948 Businesses
9,888 Employees

Source: US Census BAO and ESRI
Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

Observations:

- Population growth has been very modest over the past two decades, with only minimal growth projected through 2030, limiting near-term enrollment momentum.
- Housing inventory growth slowed between 2000-2010, rebounded modestly after 2010, and is projected to remain positive but subdued through 2030.
- Median household income has steadily increased and is projected to reach nearly \$70,000 by 2030, indicating improving economic stability that may support housing demand but not necessarily higher student yield.
- Workforce conditions remain relatively stable, with unemployment mirroring statewide levels, supporting household retention but not signaling a strong influx of new, student-generating families.

Demographic Comparative Analysis

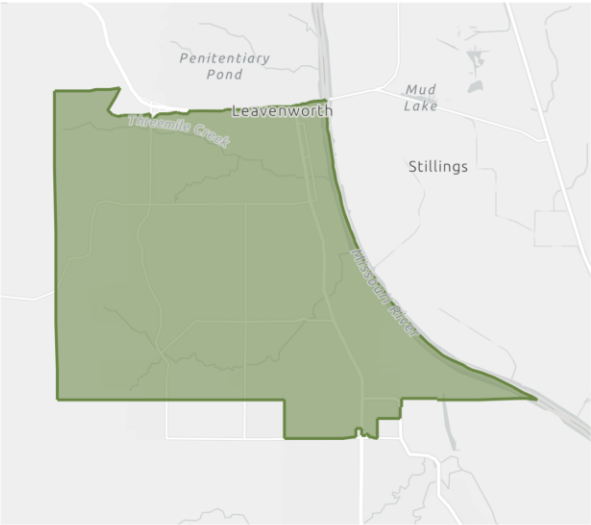
General Demographics	Leavenworth Unified School District 453	Fort Leavenworth Unified School District 207	Lansing Unified School District 469	Leavenworth City, KS	Leavenworth County, KS	Kansas
2025 Unemployment Rate	4.5%	2.5%	4.0%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%
2025 Average Household Size	2.29	3.40	2.76	2.46	2.57	2.45
2025 Median Age	38.50	31.80	40.60	35.90	39.00	38.30
2025 Total Population	28,201	8,572	15,152	37,669	84,072	2,967,337
2025 Median Household Income	\$65,283.00	\$95,868.00	\$102,246.00	\$69,334.00	\$81,948.00	\$72,975.00
2025 Total Housing Units	12,971	2,051	5,100	15,294	32,661	1,308,410
2025 Owner Occupied Housing Units	6,550	22	3,693	6,748	20,618	771,459
2025 Renter Occupied Housing Units	5,106	1,698	1,166	6,874	9,690	406,413
Vacancy Rate	10.1%	16.1%	4.7%	10.9%	7.2%	10.0%
Race/Ethnicity	Leavenworth Unified School District 453	Fort Leavenworth Unified School District 207	Lansing Unified School District 469	Leavenworth City, KS	Leavenworth County, KS	Kansas
White	68.6%	58.7%	73.7%	66.4%	75.3%	71.0%
Black	11.9%	15.0%	9.2%	12.5%	7.7%	5.6%
American Indian/Alaskan	0.6%	2.4%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%
Asian	1.4%	2.5%	1.7%	1.7%	1.3%	3.0%
Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Other Race	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Two or More Races	8.1%	6.0%	6.4%	7.6%	6.6%	5.3%
Hispanic	8.7%	14.5%	7.8%	10.1%	7.9%	13.9%

Source: U.S. Census, ESRI BAO

Observations:

- Leavenworth USD 453 has the Second Highest vacancy rate (3.2%) when compared to all neighboring geographies
- The Average Household Size is the lowest in Leavenworth USD 453 when compared to all neighboring geographies
- The Median Age is the third highest in Leavenworth USD 453 when compared to all neighboring geographies

Census Demographic Overview



POPULATION TRENDS AND KEY INDICATORS

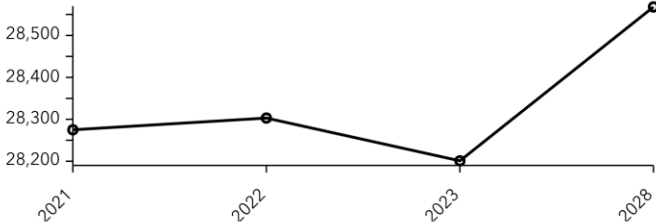
Leavenworth Unified School District 453
Geography: Unified School District

28,201	11,656	2.29	38.5	\$65,283	\$196,565	61	114	54
Population	Households	Avg Size Household	Median Age	Median Household Income	Median Home Value	Wealth Index	Housing Affordability	Diversity Index

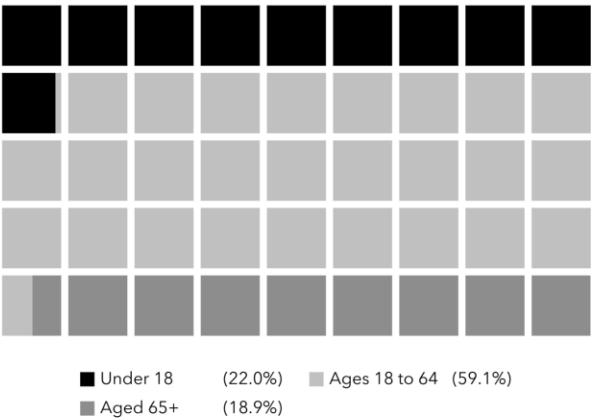
MORTGAGE INDICATORS



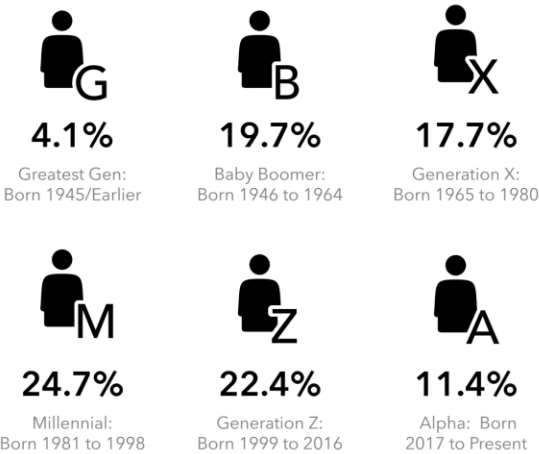
Historical Trends: Population



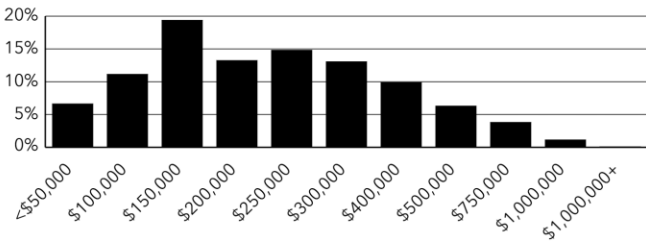
POPULATION BY AGE



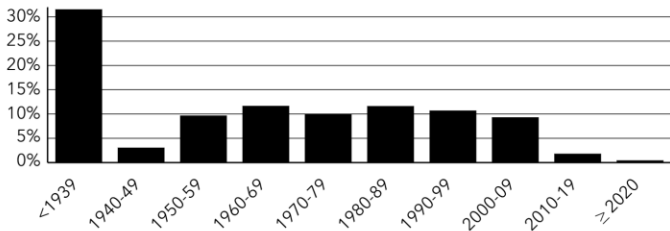
POPULATION BY GENERATION



Home Value



Housing: Year Built



Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025, 2030), Esri-U.S. BLS (2025), ACS (2019-2023). © 2026 Esri

Source: US Census BAO and ESRI
Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

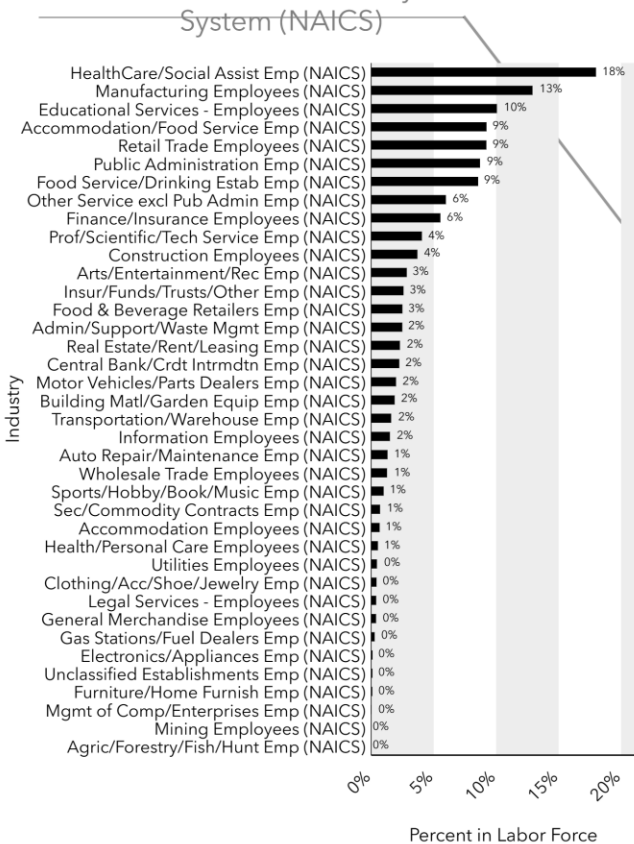
Census Employment Outlook

Economic Development Profile

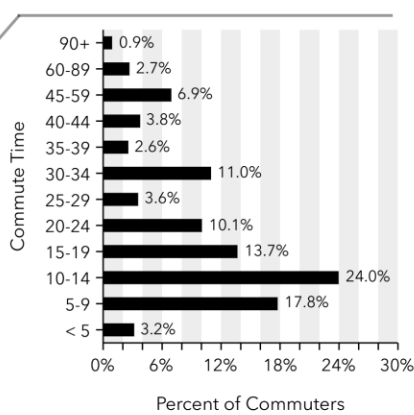
Leavenworth Unified School District 453

Geography: Unified School District

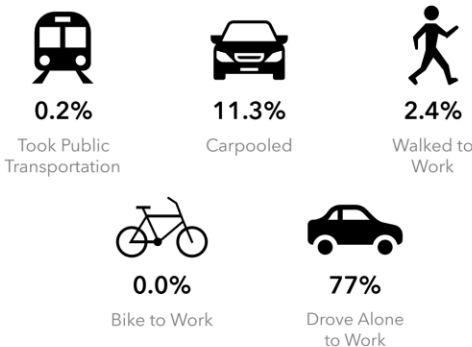
2024 The North American Industry Classification



Commute Time: Minutes



Transportation to Work



Source: US Census BAO and ESRI
Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025), Esri-Data Axle (2025), ACS (2019-2023).

© 2026 Esri

Student Retention Analysis

Note: See Legend Color Code for grade change. Starting and ending year is key to see how each grade retained enrollment year to year.

2015/16 Retention Snapshot (Visual 1)

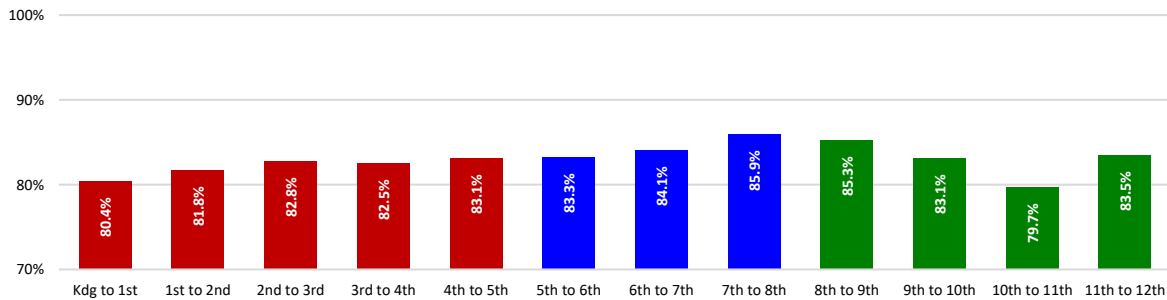
- Table represents the 2015/16 student data and illustrates the student change by year for the students who were attending in 2015/16
- From 2015/16 to 2025/26 the district has retained 51.5% of students (K-12)
- The 2015/16 Kdg class has decreased by 201 students from 2015/16 to 2025/26 (-71%)
- Currently, there are 330 10th grade students meaning 247 (75%) of those students were new to the district after 2015/16

Visual 1: 2015/16 Student Data Retention Analysis

Grade		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Grade Change	Starting Enrollment	Percent Change
Starting	Ending	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26				
Kdg	10th	-58	-34	-21	-21	-9	-13	-12	-9	-16	-8		-201	284	-70.8%
1st	11th	-59	-32	-14	-12	-14	-13	-7	-7	-10	-7		-175	281	-62.3%
2nd	12th	-48	-26	-28	-16	-19	-13	-8	-6	-12	-9		-185	271	-68.3%
3rd	12th	-47	-23	-20	-18	-10	-10	-9	-18	-14			-169	267	-63.3%
4th	12th	-49	-30	-18	-16	-16	-12	-16	-9				-166	268	-61.9%
5th	12th	-45	-35	-10	-16	-15	-16	-11					-148	255	-58.0%
6th	12th	-36	-22	-25	-19	-9	-13						-124	249	-49.8%
7th	12th	-31	-20	-15	-12	-15							-93	201	-46.3%
8th	12th	-41	-19	-24	-13								-97	251	-38.6%
9th	12th	-49	-31	-19									-99	292	-33.9%
10th	12th	-59	-33										-92	353	-26.1%
11th	12th	-57											-57	340	-16.8%
All Grade Change		-579	-305	-194	-143	-107	-90	-63	-49	-52	-24		-1,606	3,312	-48.5%
K-11 % Change		-17.5%	-9.2%	-5.9%	-4.3%	-3.2%	-2.7%	-1.9%	-1.5%	-1.6%	-0.7%		-48.5%		
K-11 Enrollment		3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312				

Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

Visual 2: Average Cohort Retention by Grade Cohort



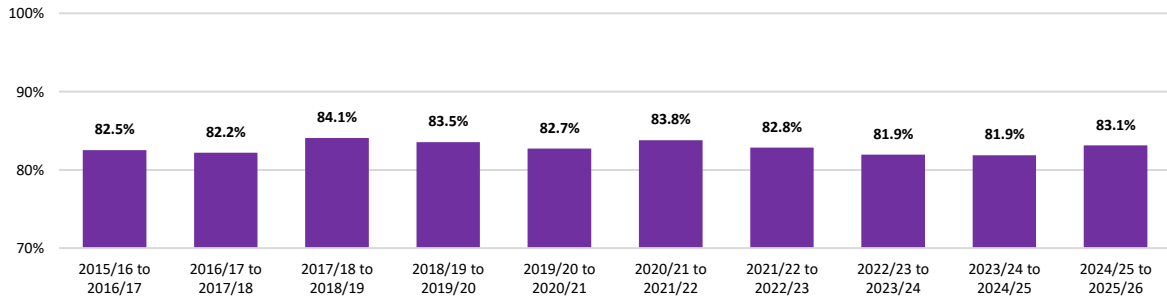
Average Retention (Visual 2)

- Table represents the average student retention starting in 2015/16 (10 years of data) (tracked by Student IDs)
- On average, the district retains 83% of their student body year to year

Year to Year (Visual 3)

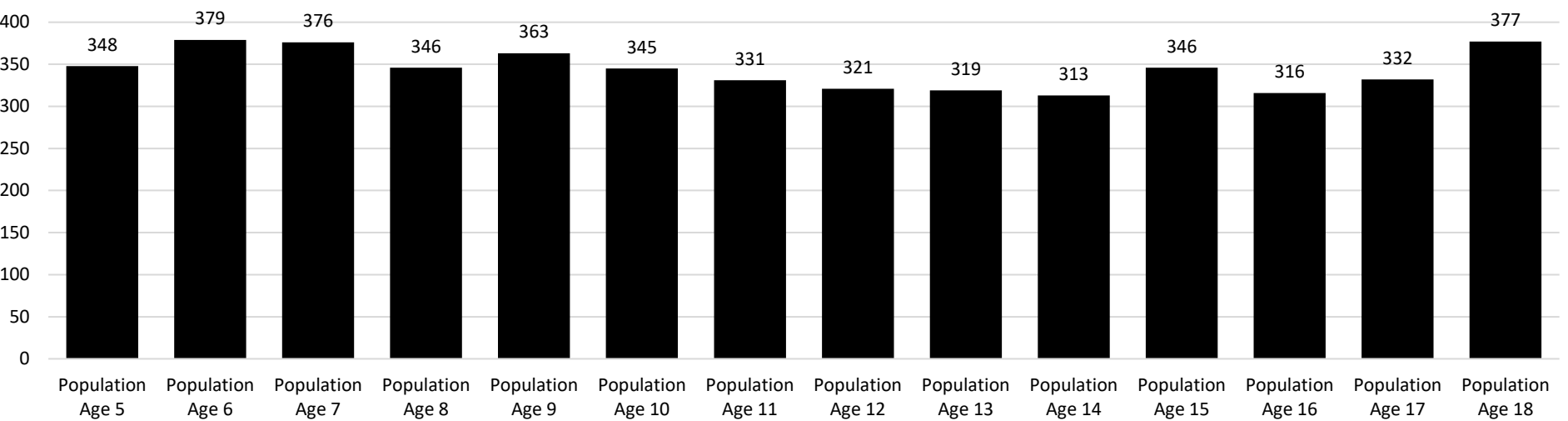
- Retention was lowest from 2021/22 to 2022/23 and from 2023/24 to 2024/25 with 81.9% retention of students
- Retention was greatest from 2017/18 to 2018/19 with 84.1% retention of students

Visual 3: Retention Rate Over Time (All Grades, Year 1 to Year 2)

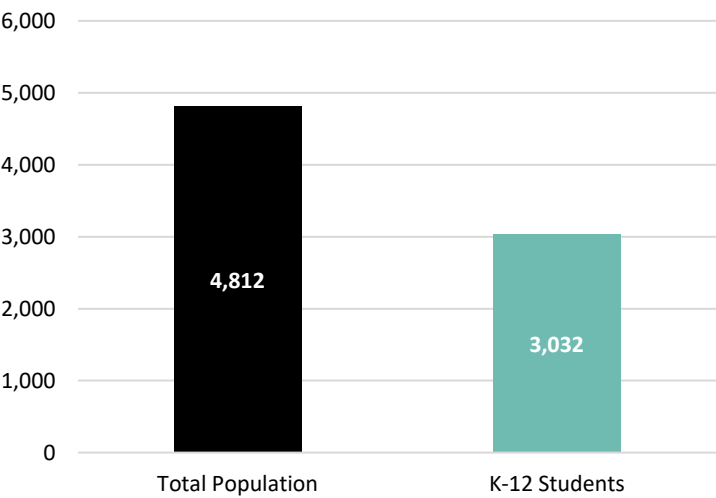


2025 Student Age Population (Ages 5 to 18)

Potential Student Age Population (2025 Estimates):



Age 5-18 Population V.S. K-12 Enrollment



Source: US Census BAO and ESRI, 2025 July Estimates and Leavenworth USD 453

Disclaimer: Population by age does not directly align with specific grade levels. This data represents a general estimate of the student-age population, not actual school enrollment figures.

Observations:

- The census estimates 4,812 people age 5 to 18 reside in the school district boundary in 2025
- 2025/26 K-12 enrollment is 3,032 students – approximately 63% of the census estimated population
- There is likely an adjustment between persons living in the district that attend other school options (private/parochial), and the number of Out of District students that enroll into the district
- Continued use of age-based population vs. enrollment comparisons will be helpful in projecting future yield rates and determining when/where shifts may occur.

Birth Rate Information

Leavenworth County Live Births and Leavenworth USD 453 Kindergarteners 5 Years Later

Calendar Year	# Live Births	Birth Change	% Birth Change	School Year	# Kdg	%Kdg of Live Births
2008	961			2014/15	279	29.0%
2009	963	2	0.2%	2015/16	288	29.9%
2010	946	-17	-1.8%	2016/17	287	30.3%
2011	967	21	2.2%	2017/18	283	29.3%
2012	966	-1	-0.1%	2018/19	270	28.0%
2013	955	-11	-1.1%	2019/20	236	24.7%
2014	987	32	3.4%	2020/21	250	25.3%
2015	1,013	26	2.6%	2021/22	270	26.7%
2016	999	-14	-1.4%	2022/23	246	24.6%
2017	955	-44	-4.4%	2023/24	194	20.3%
2018	987	32	3.4%	2024/25	192	19.5%
2019	1,013	26	2.6%	2025/26	174	17.2%
2020	999	-14	-1.4%	2026/27	172	266
2021	911	-88	-8.8%	2027/28	156	243
2022	908	-3	-0.3%	2028/29	156	242
2023	872	-36	-4.0%	2029/30	150	232
3-Year Average	897.0	-42				
3-Year Weighted Average	890.5	-33.7				

Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Leavenworth County, and Leavenworth USD 453

Live Birth Observations

- Tracks the number of county-wide live births and the corresponding number of kindergarten students in Leavenworth USD 453 five years later
- The number of live births have been decreasing. This is consistent with national and state trends.
- 3-year average of 42 less live births per year
- The district’s market share of Kindergarten students from live births has been decreasing
 - Market share used to be close to 30%; this year the market share decreased to 17.2%
- Kindergarten enrollment has been decreasing as this demographic shift has happened
- Based on this variable and the past five years of market share, the kindergarten classes moving forward are forecasted to be between:
 - 150 to 172 students on the low end
 - 232 to 266 students on the high end
 - Market Share decline impacts the future kindergarten projected enrollment

Main Takeaway: The decline of live births can potentially result in smaller kindergarten classes. To keep similar or greater enrollment, the district will need to experience an increase in the market share of future kindergarten students. RSP recommends continuing to monitor this variable for more understanding on demographic trends as propensity of county live births enrolling in the District.

Elementary Intra-District Transfers

ES Transfers	Attend				Total Movement
Reside	Anthony ES	David Brewer ES	Henry Leavenworth ES	Out Total	
Anthony ES	0	26	24	50	-14
David Brewer ES	22	0	10	32	4
Henry Leavenworth ES	14	10	0	24	10
In Total	36	36	34	106	0

Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

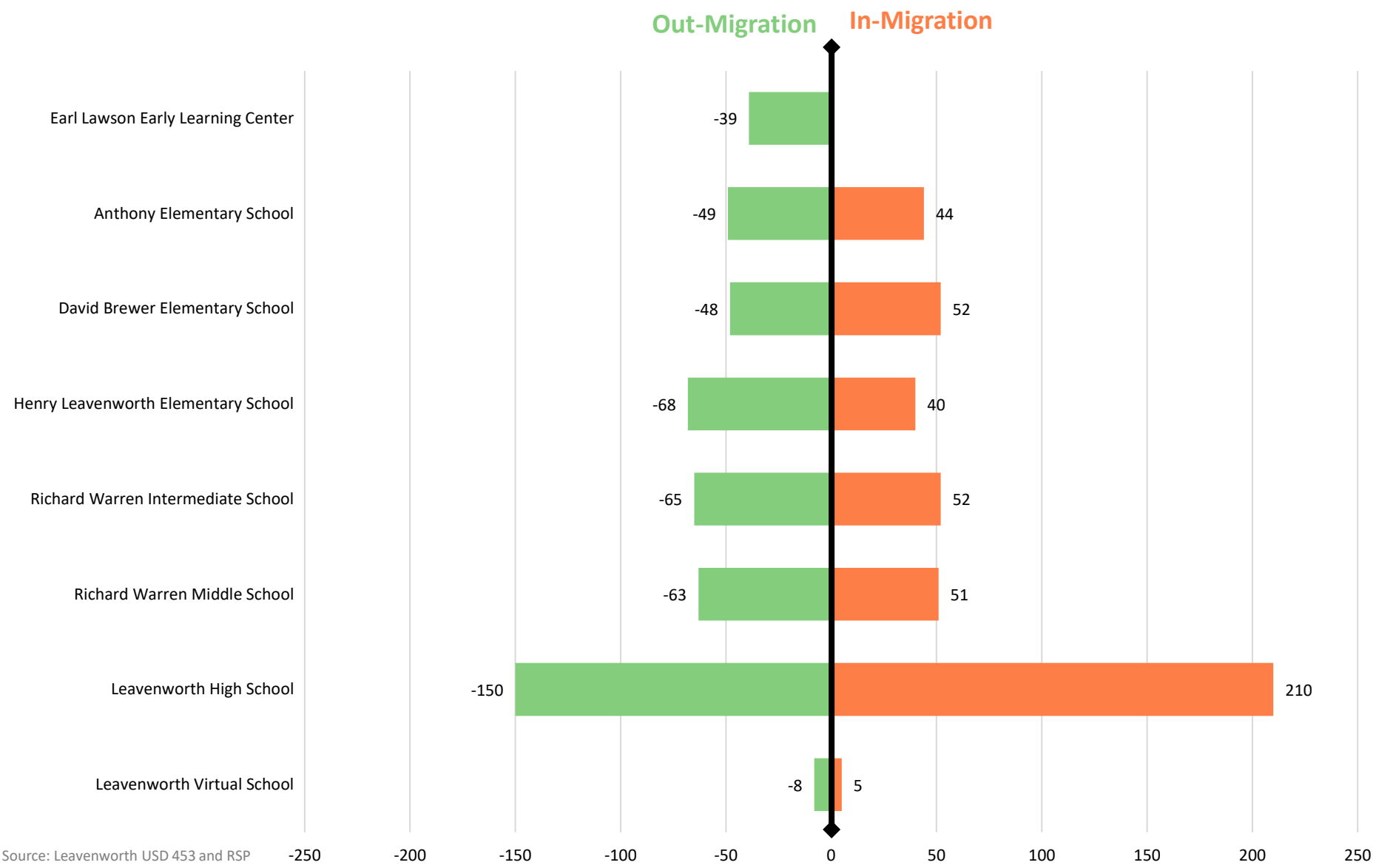
NOTE: The schools in the left column are associated with the current attendance area. Reading to the right indicates a school choice change from where they are assigned based on the Reside attendance area.

For example: Anthony ES has 50 students attending a different elementary school and 36 students from another elementary school choosing to attend Anthony ES. This results in 14 less students attending Anthony ES than what reside in that attendance area.

Observations:

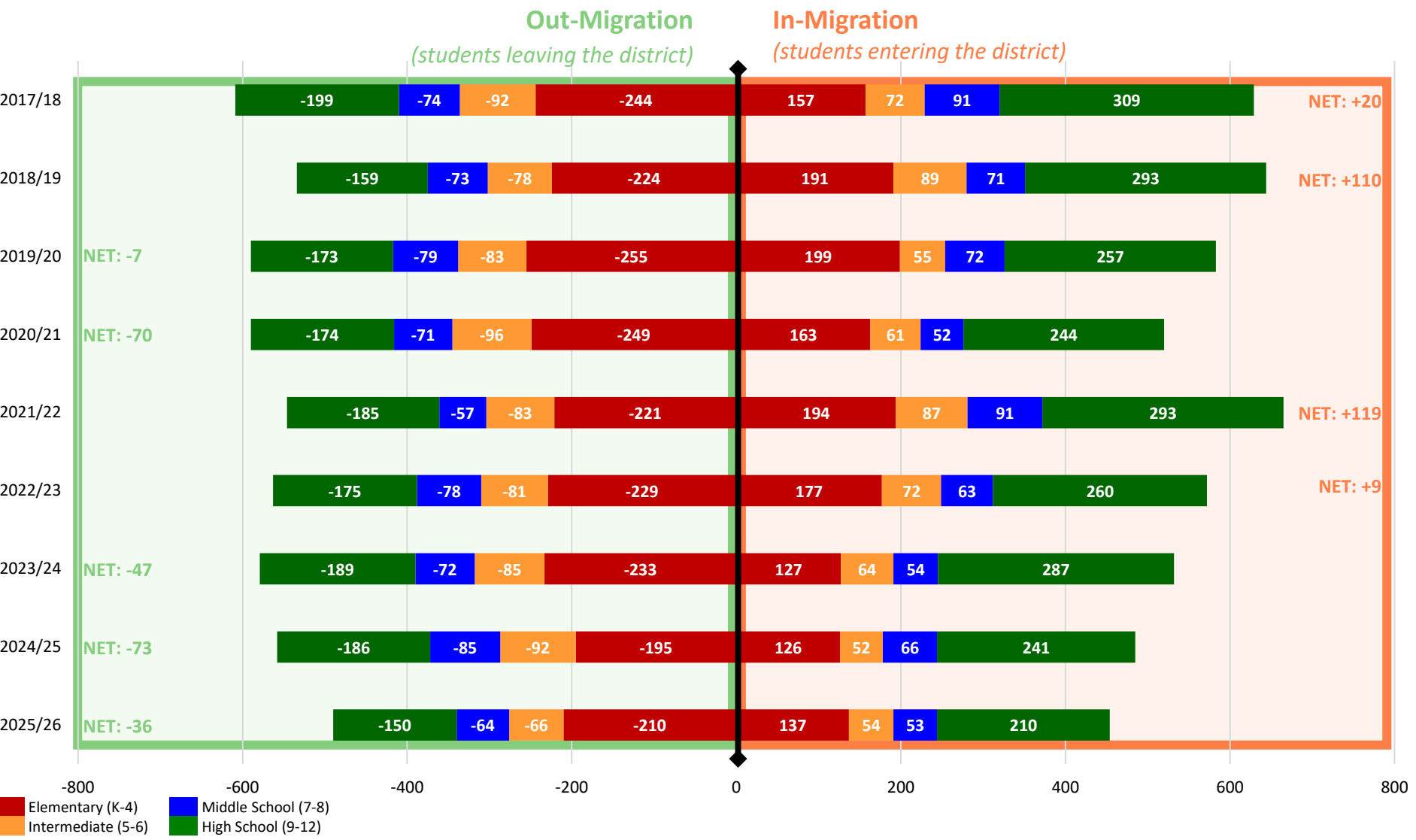
- Illustrates school choice that could be impacted by the location of educational programming; reviewed on an annual basis and approved based on capacity availability
- Anthony and David Brewer ES had the most students transferring in (+36), but Henry Leavenworth ES had the greatest net gain of transfer students (+10)
- Anthony ES had the most transferring out (-50) and the greatest net loss of transfer students (-14)
- **106 total elementary students transferred between boundaries this year**

1-Year Student Migration by Buildings



Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

10-Year Student Migration Trend



Source: Leavenworth USD 453 and RSP

Main Takeaway: The district has experienced a net loss from migration trends in five of the past nine years.

Student Yield Rate: Single-Family

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Anthony Elementary	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	9.1
David Brewer Elementary	12	12	12	11	11	12	12	11	10	9	11.2
Henry Leavenworth Elementary	13	14	13	13	11	11	10	9	9	8	11.1
District (K-4):	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.0	9.0	8.0	10.7
Leavenworth Intermediate	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	3.9
Richard Warren Middle School	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3.9
Leavenworth High School	10	10	9	10	9	10	9	9	9	8	9.3

Source: Leavenworth County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 single-family units. Single-family units include houses that may be fully detached or semi-detached and occupied by one household or family.

Observations:

- Table shows the number of students per 100 single-family (SF) units by year and by grade level
- District sees on average:
 - 10.7 elementary (K-4) students per 100 single-family households
 - 3.9 intermediate (5-6) students per 100 single-family households
 - 3.9 middle school (7-8) students per 100 single-family households
 - 9.3 high school (9-12) students per 100 single-family households
- Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 58 single-family homes built from 2016 to 2025**

Student Yield Rate: Multi-Family

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Anthony Elementary	9	8	8	8	9	9	11	9	8	8	8.7
David Brewer Elementary	8	8	8	7	6	7	6	7	9	10	7.6
Henry Leavenworth Elementary	10	10	9	9	8	8	7	7	8	7	8.3
District (K-4):	9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.2
Leavenworth Intermediate	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3.3
Richard Warren Middle School	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3.2
Leavenworth High School	6	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	6	5.4

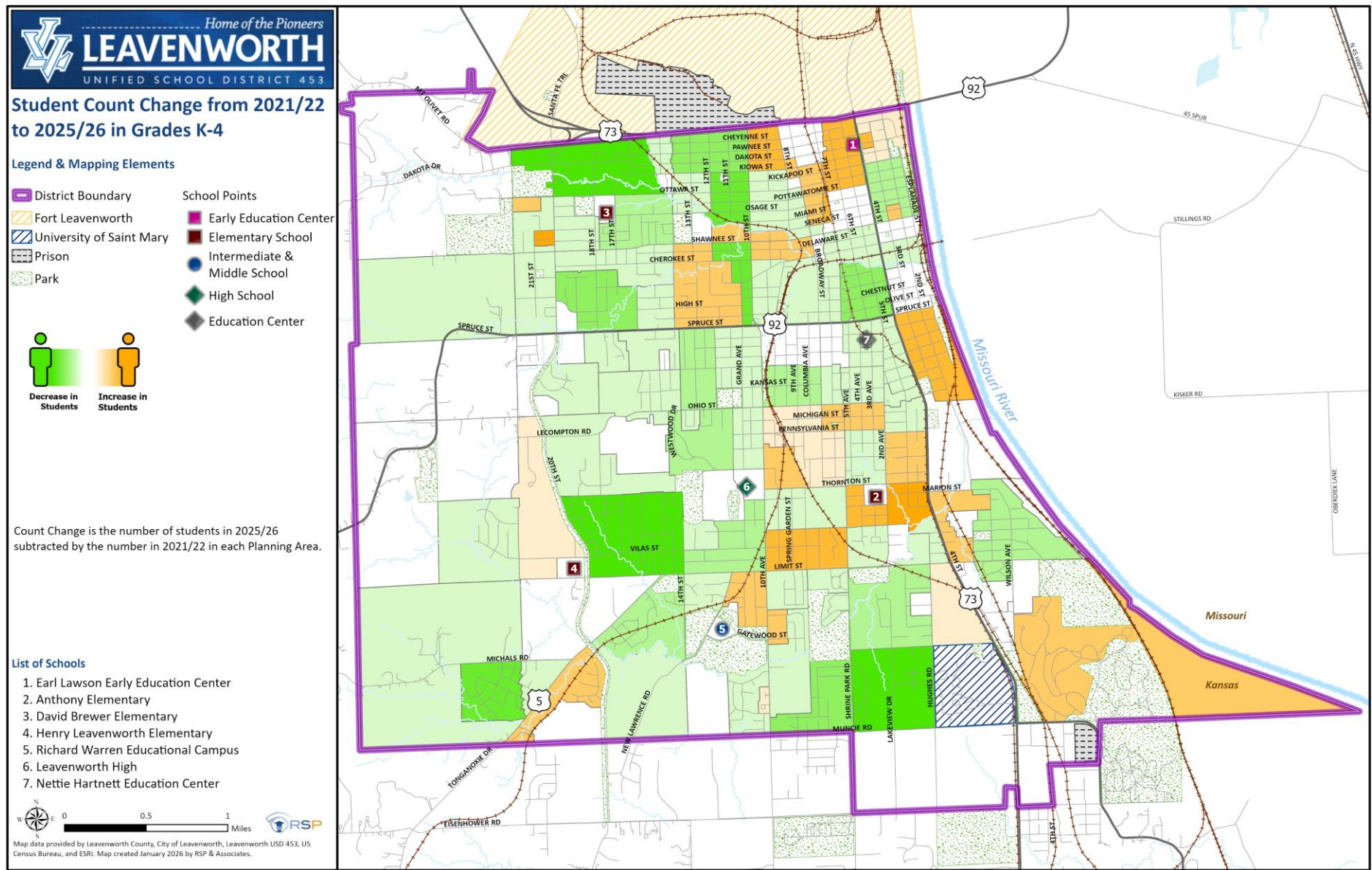
Source: Leavenworth County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 multi-family units. Multi-family units include apartment, duplex, mixed-use, mobile home, townhome, etc. units.

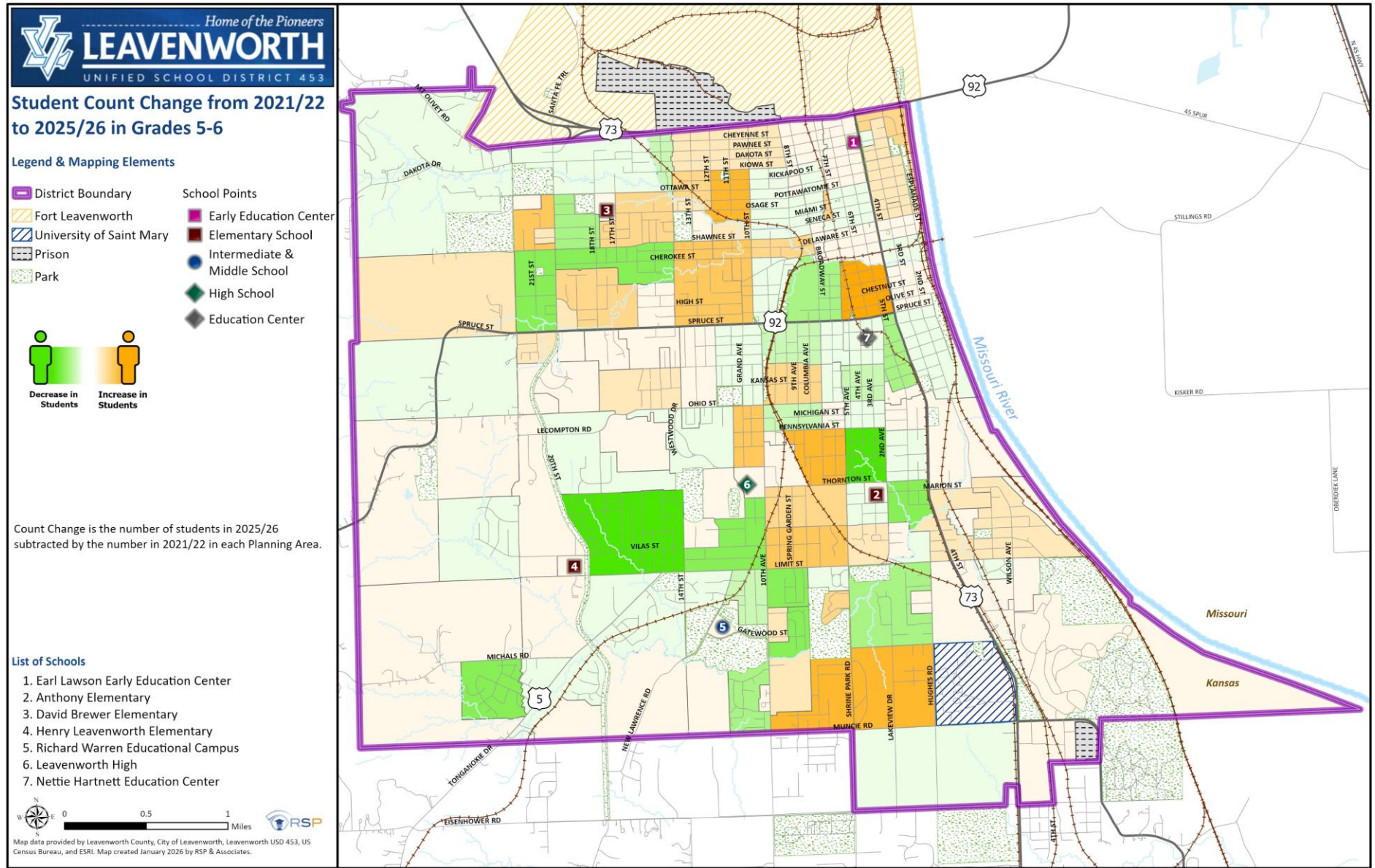
Observations:

- Table shows the number of students per 100 multi-family (MF) units by year and by grade level
- District sees on average:
 - 8.2 elementary (K-4) students per 100 multi-family households
 - 3.3 intermediate (5-6) students per 100 multi-family households
 - 3.2 middle school (7-8) students per 100 multi-family households
 - 5.4 high school (9-12) students per 100 multi-family households
- Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 174 multi-family homes built from 2016 to 2025**

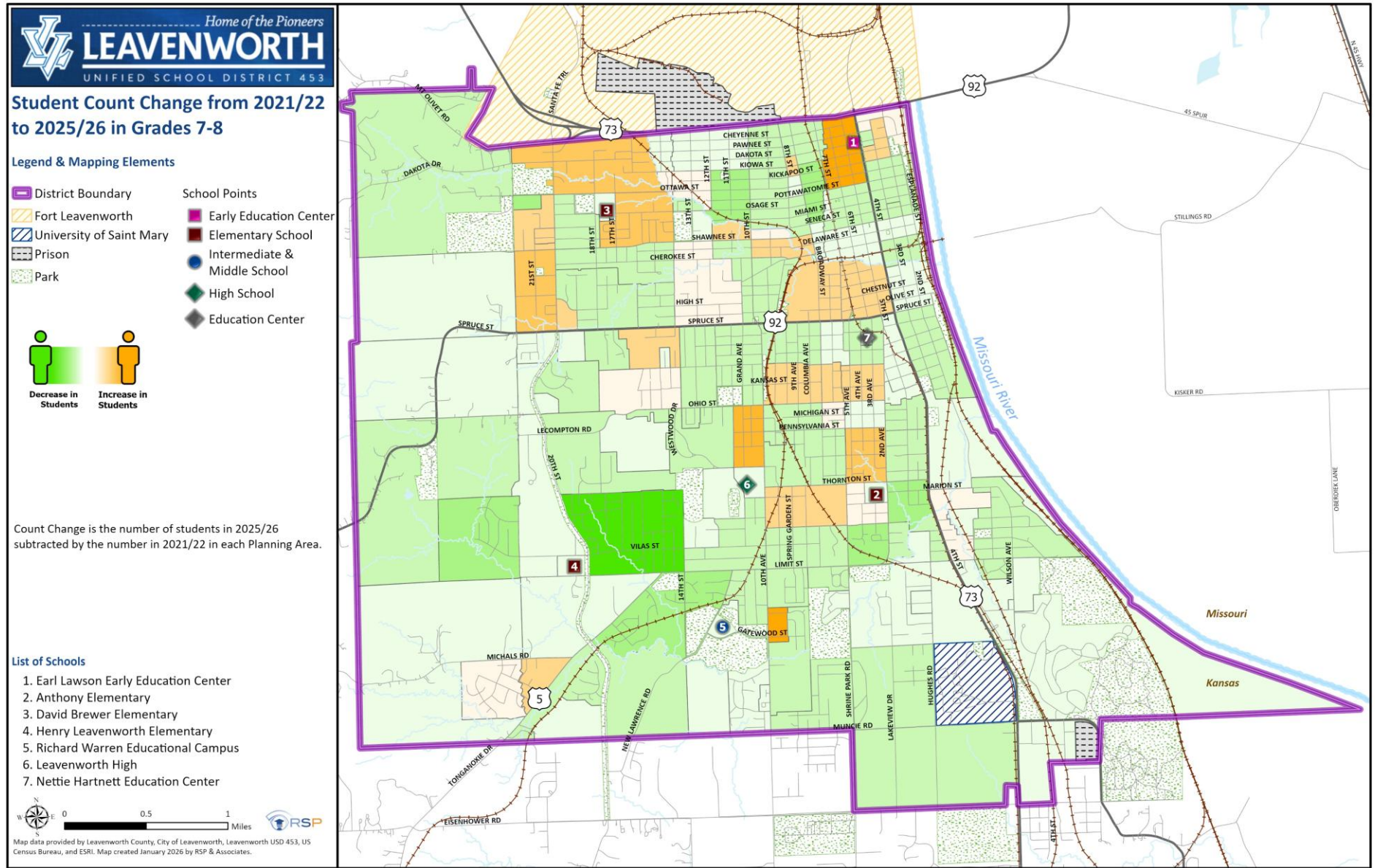
Elementary Student Count Change Map



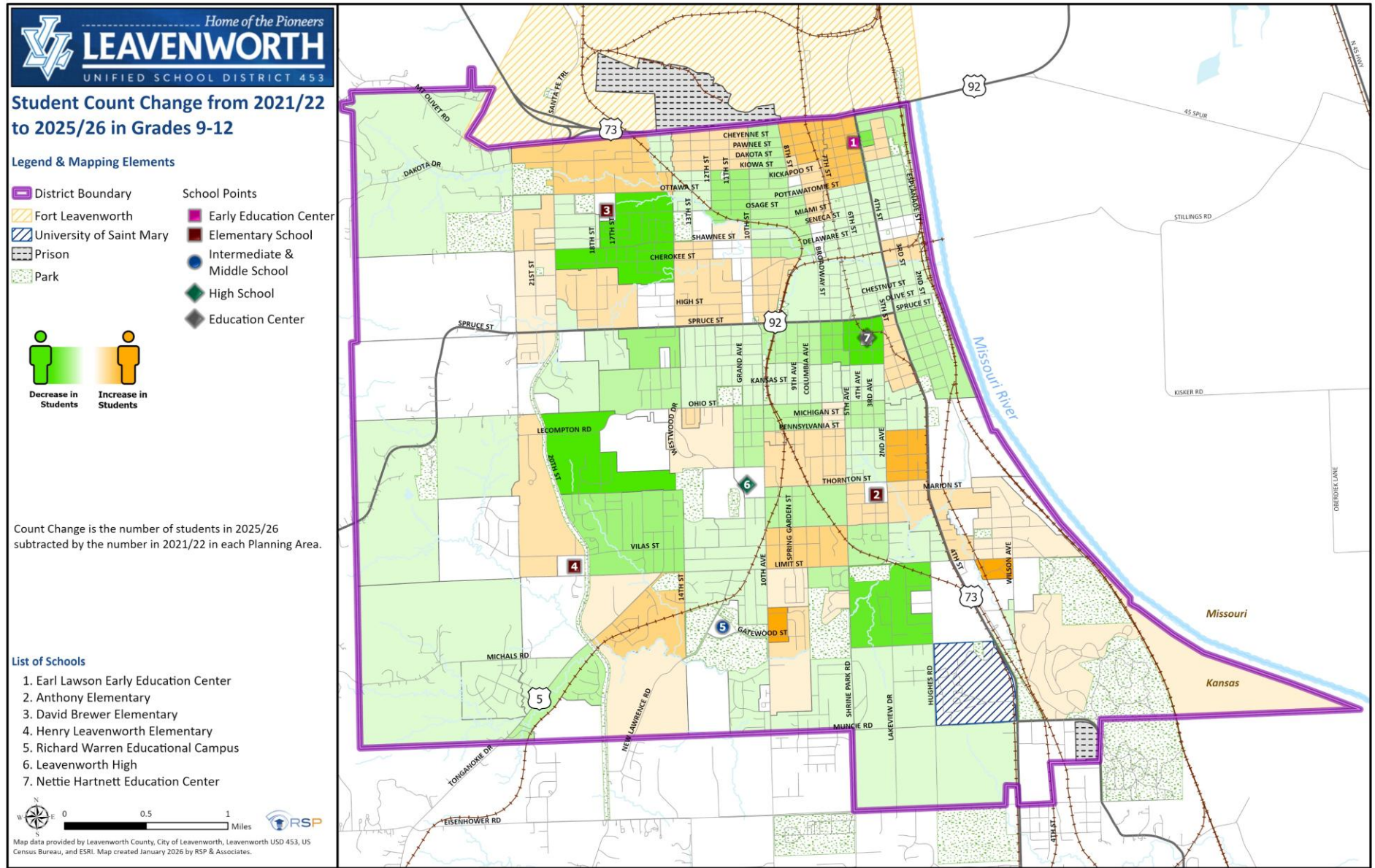
Intermediate Student Count Change Map



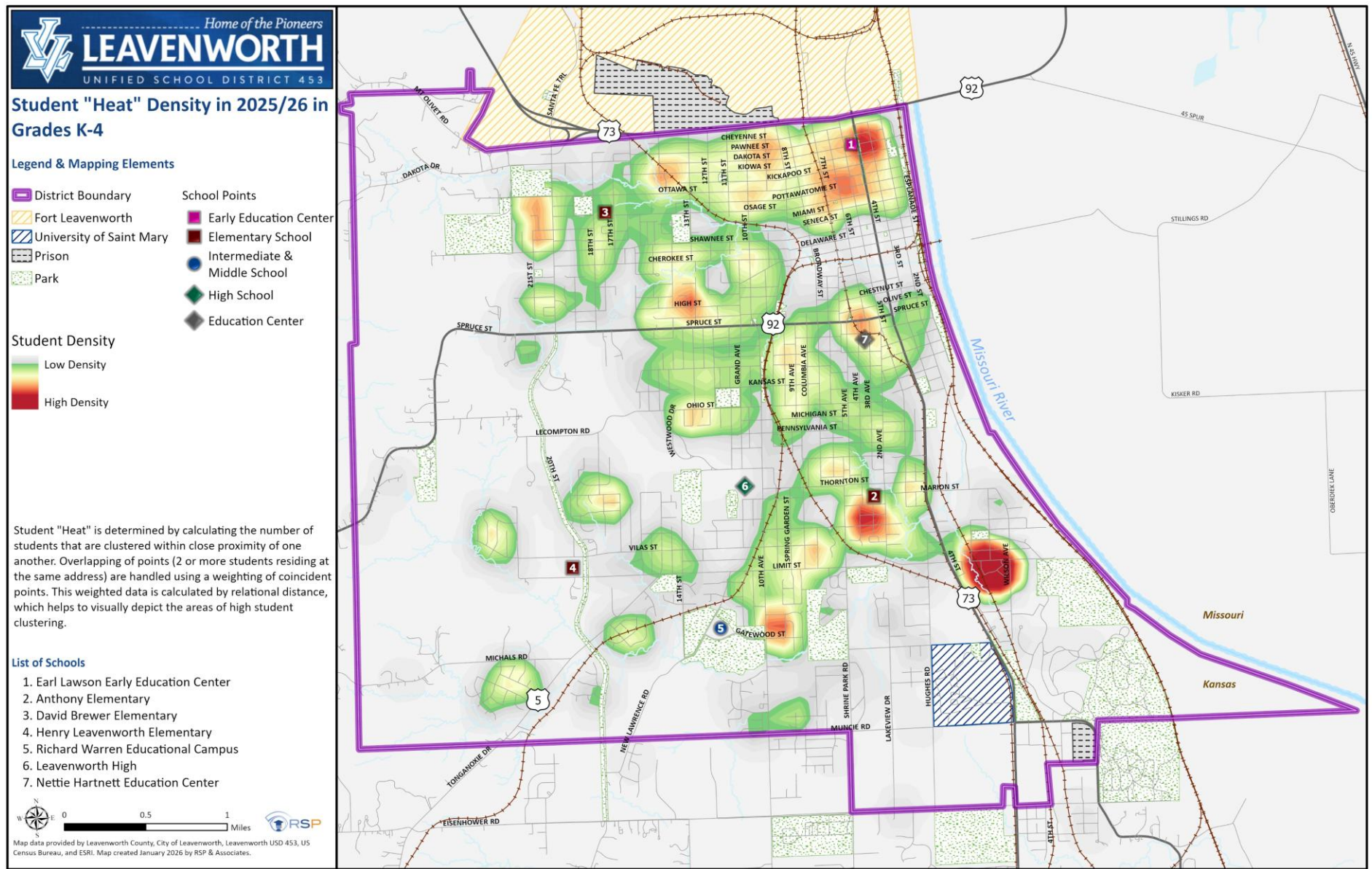
Middle School Student Count Change Map



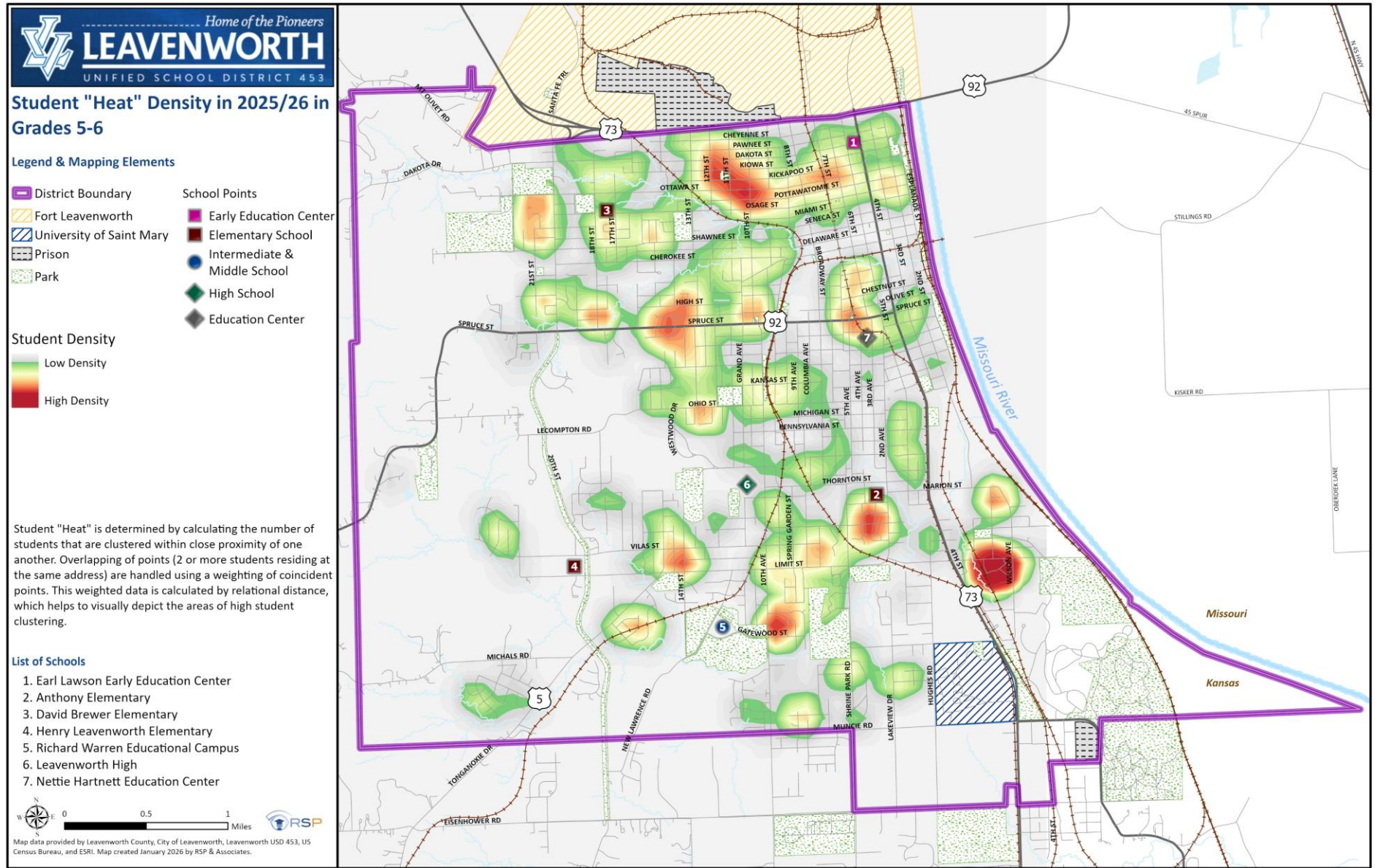
High School Student Count Change Map



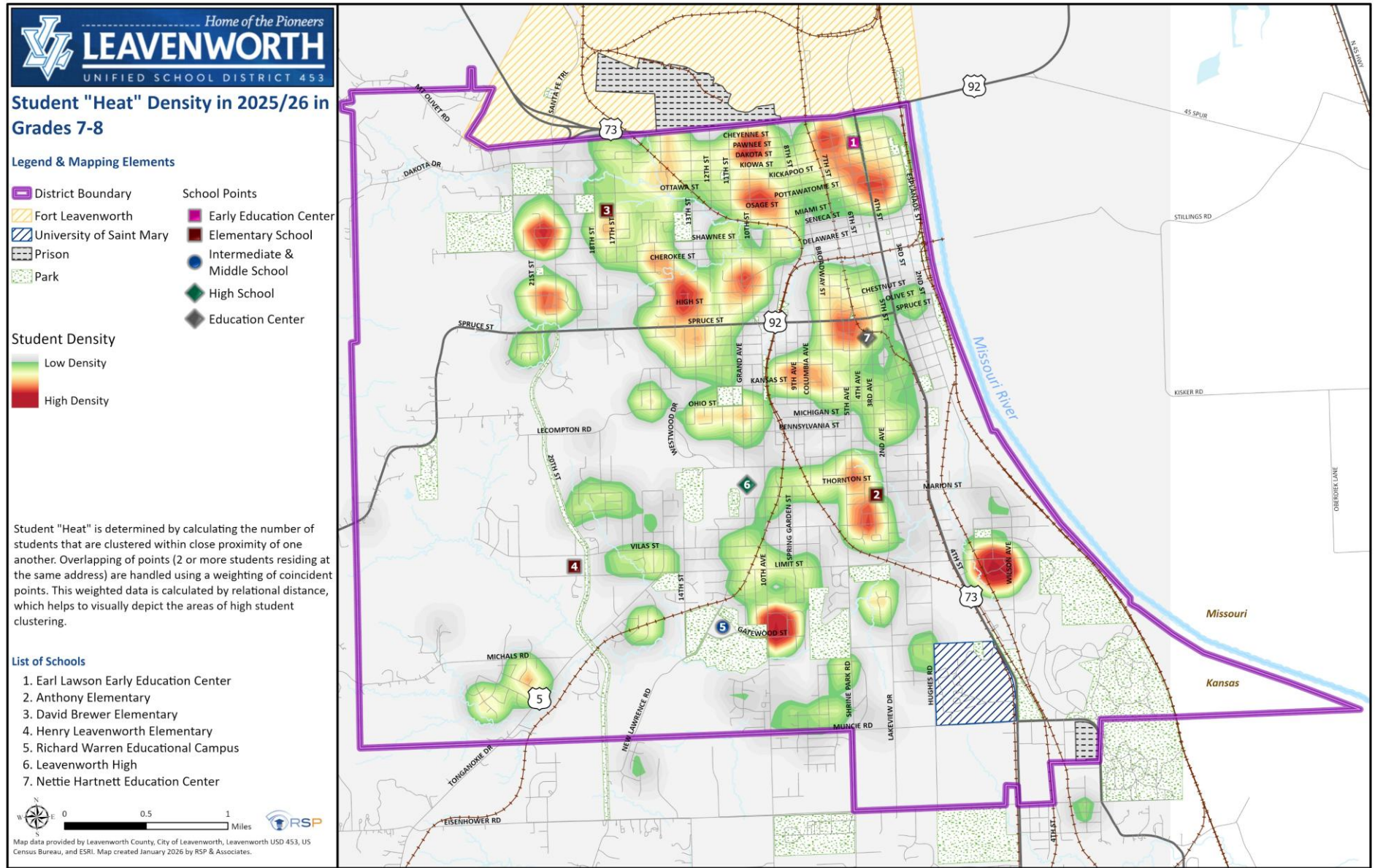
Elementary Student Density Heat Map



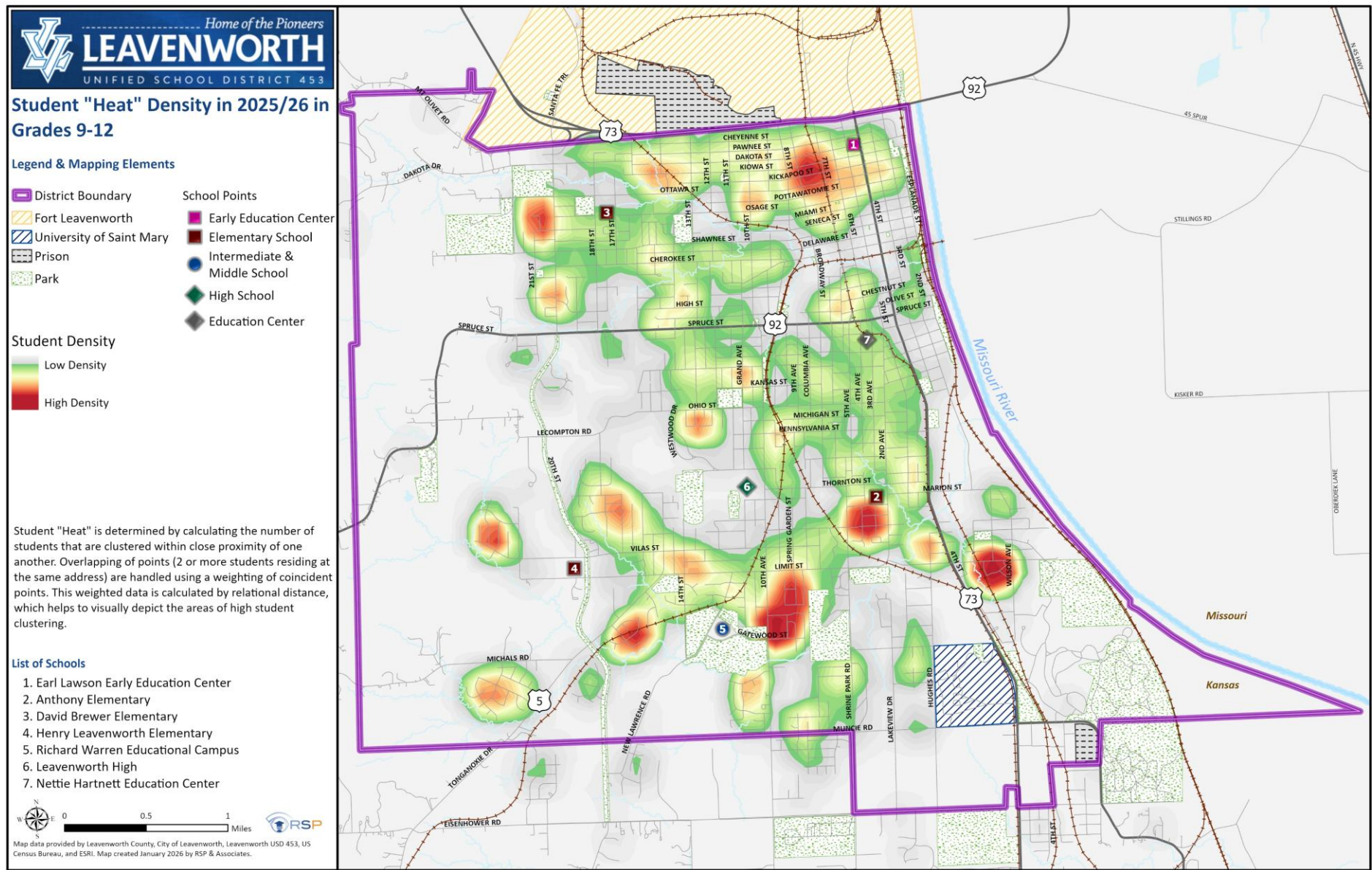
Intermediate Student Density Heat Map



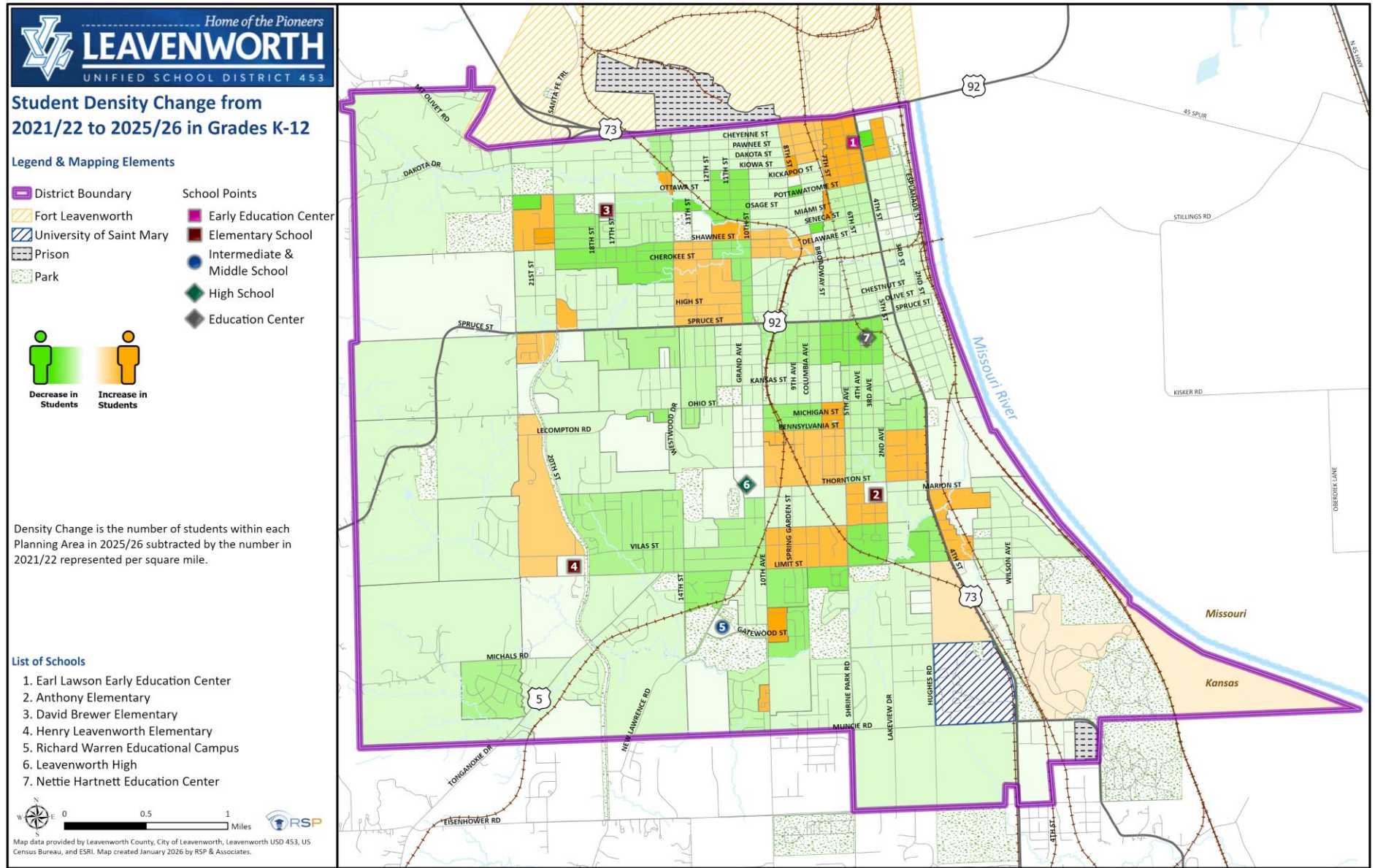
Middle School Student Density Heat Map



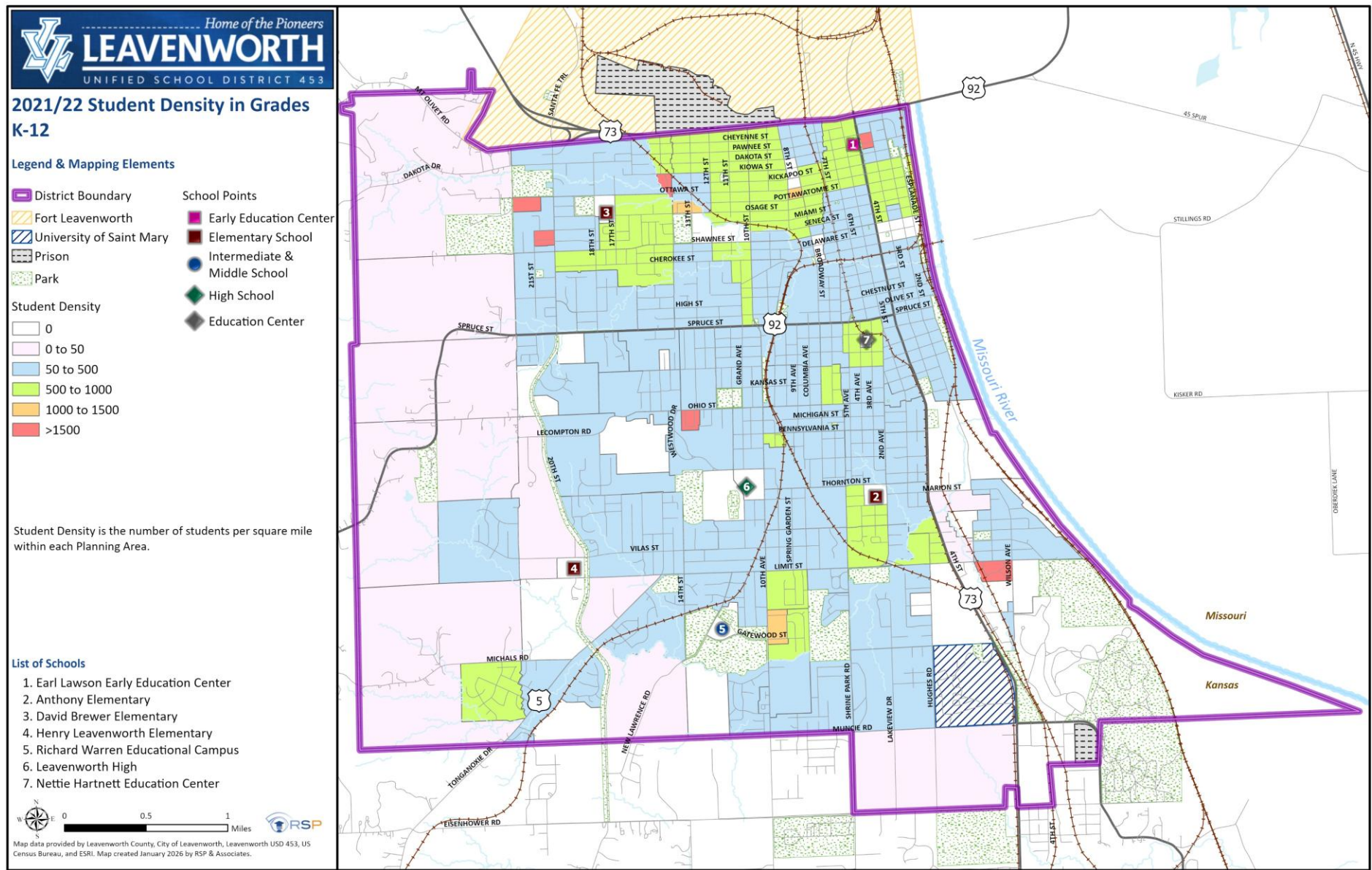
High School Student Density Heat Map



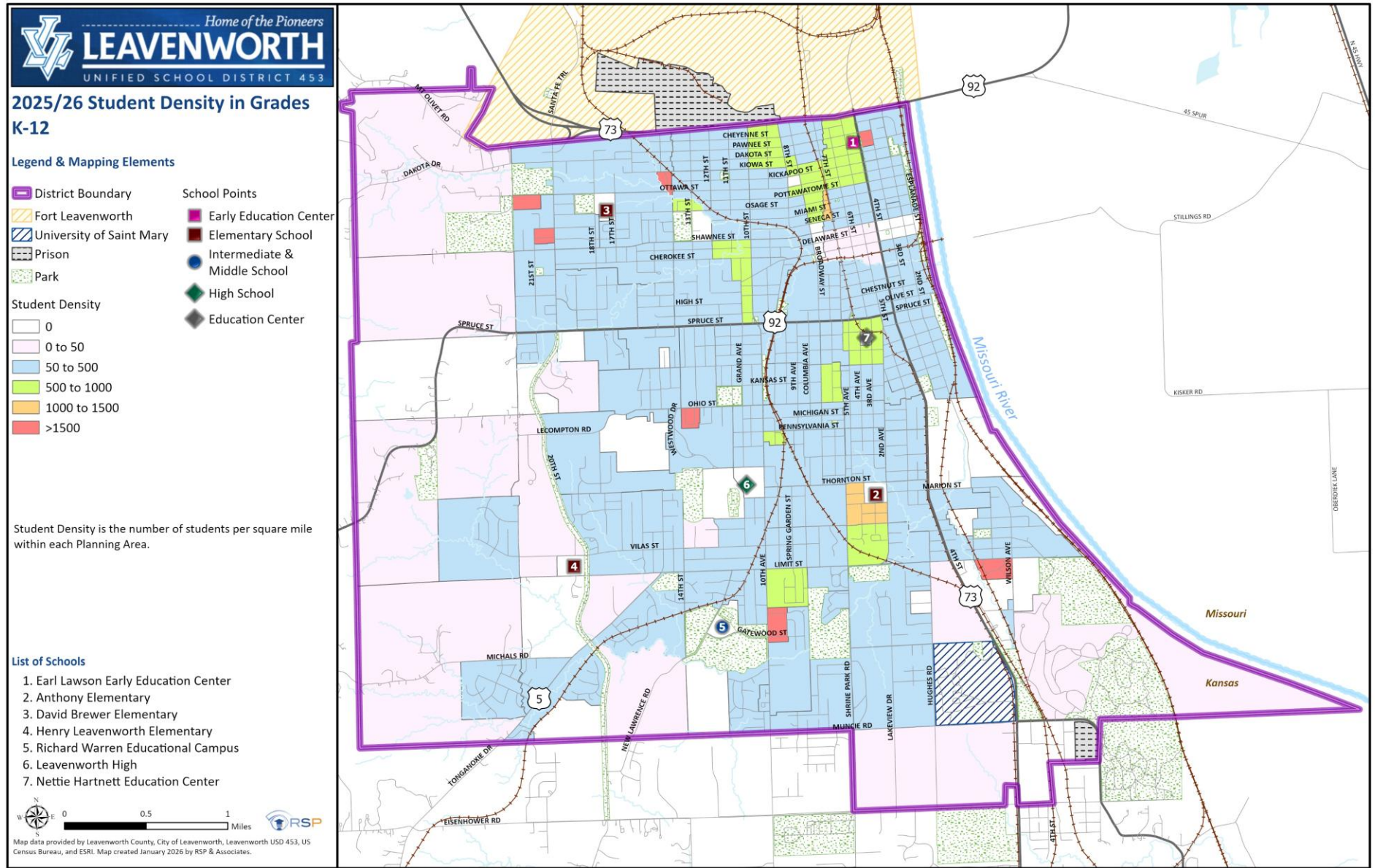
Student Density Change Map



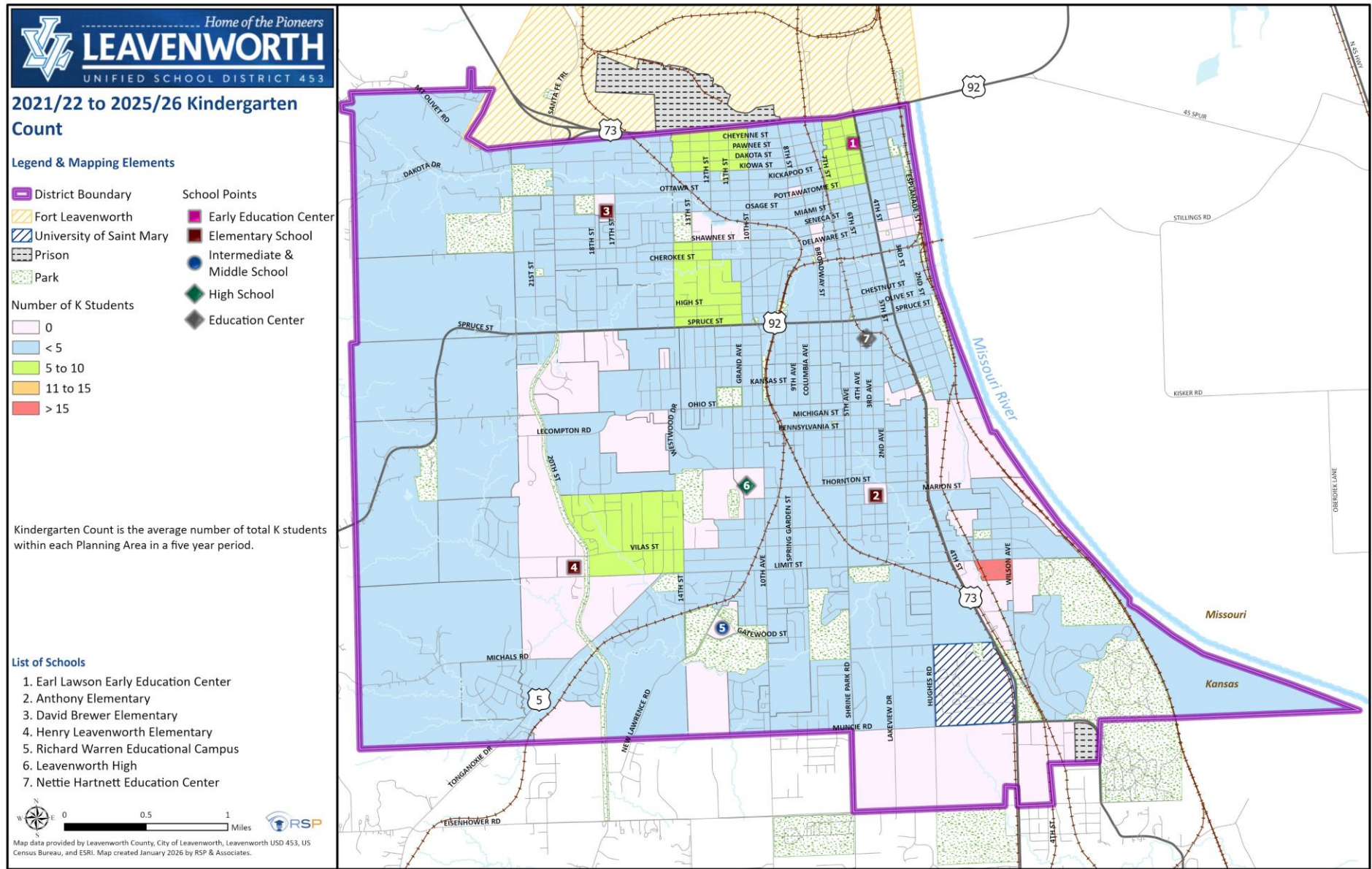
2021/22 Student Density Map



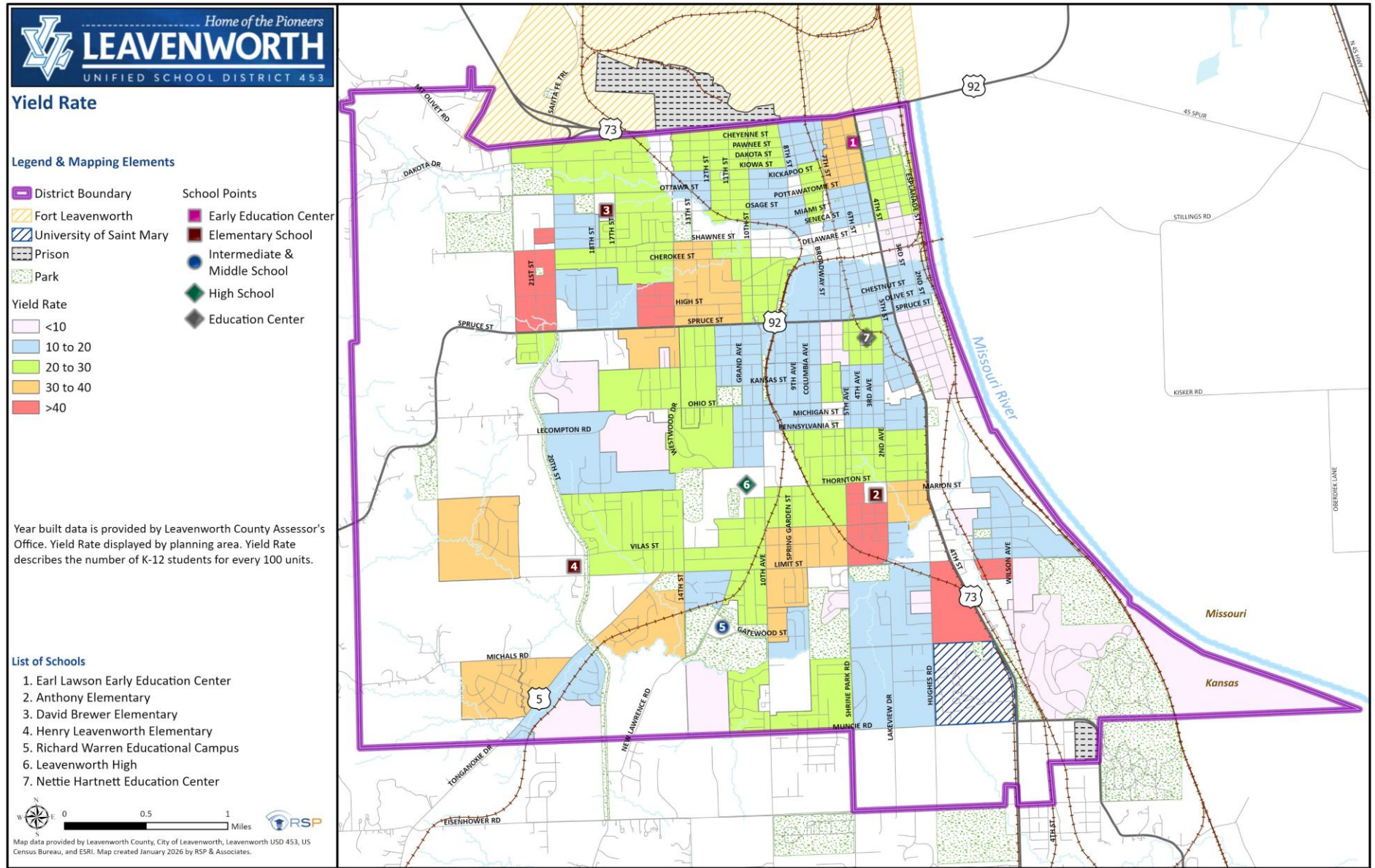
2025/26 Student Density Map



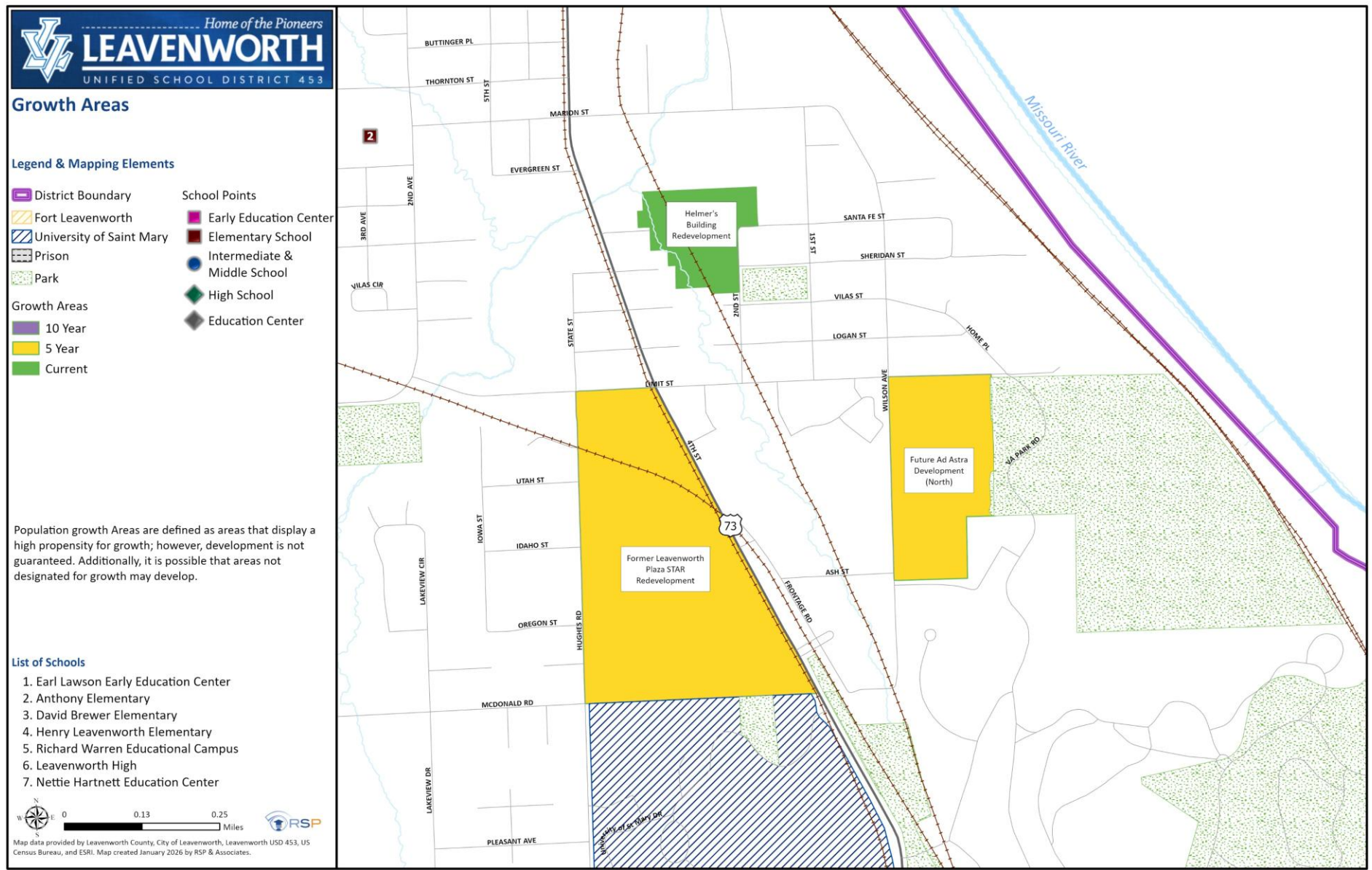
5-Year Average Kindergarten Count Map



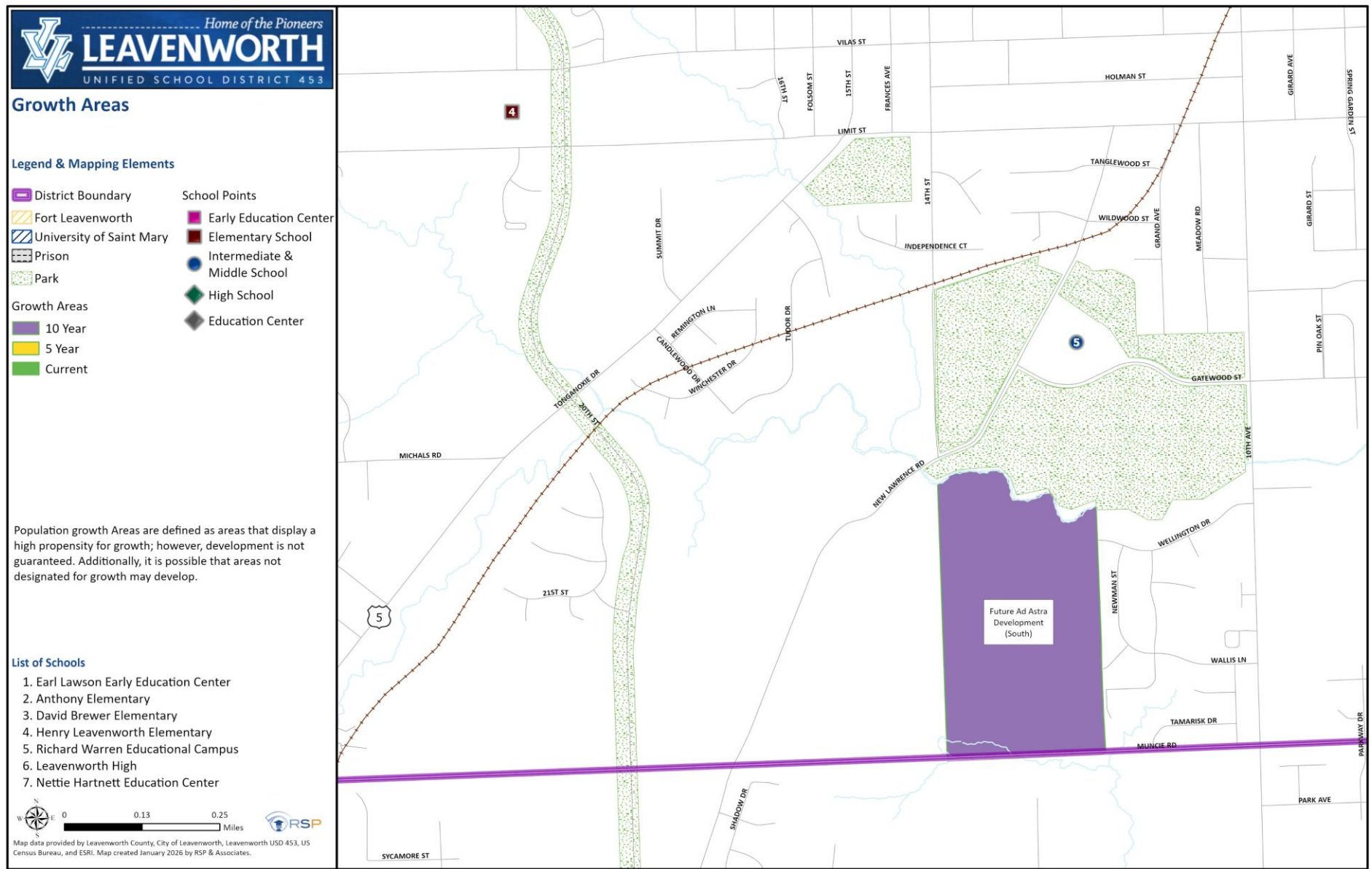
Student Yield Rate Analysis Map



Southeast Growth Area Map (Detailed)



Southwest Growth Area Map (Detailed)



Key Definitions

- Cohort: a group of individuals having a statistical factor (such as grade level) in common in a demographic study
- In-Migration: shows number of students in grade 1st to 12th that are attending the district in the current year, but were not attending the district in the previous year
- Home Value Bar Chart: Percent of total homes by range of home value
- Housing Affordability Index: Measures affordability using an index to quantify the ability of a typical household to purchase an existing home in an area.
- Household Income Bar Chart: Percent of households by range of household income
- Median Home Value: equal to the middle point of all reported home values from the assessor's office in the district
- Median Year Built: equal to the middle point of all reported years when each dwelling unit was built based on information from the local assessor's office
- Mixed-use development (MU): development that blends two or more residential, commercial, cultural, institutional, and/or industrial uses
- Mobile Home Park: movable dwelling, 8 feet or more wide and 40 feet or more long, designed to be towed on its own chassis, with transportation gear integral to the unit when it leaves the factory, and without need of a permanent foundation.
- Mortgage as % Salary: Number of households by what percent salary goes to mortgage experiences
- Multi-family (MF): a classification of housing where multiple separate housing units for residential inhabitants are contained within one building or several buildings within one complex
- Single-family (SF): a house that is may be fully detached or semi-detached occupied by one household or family
- Town Homes (TH): Side by side housing units that do not meet the definition of single-family houses
- Out-Migration: shows number of students in grade Kindergarten to 11th that are attending the district in the previous year, but were not attending the district in the current year
- Percent of Income for Mortgage: Provides a monthly budget perspective to examine the relationship between household income and mortgage payments (based on a median-valued home).
- Vacant Land: means any undeveloped land/ erf within a proclaimed township or a land development area and will continue to be rated as vacant until such time as a certificate of occupancy
- Year Property Built Bar Chart: Percent of households by decade home was built
- Yield Rate: ratio of students that attend each school to the number of housing units in that school's attendance area

Project Documentation

Data Acquisition:

- School District Student Data
 - Data Sent: November 14, 2025
 - Data Verified by District: November 1,. 2025
- City Planning Meeting(s)
 - January 9, 2025 – City Planning Department
- Leavenworth County – GIS Open Data Source