

Orcas Island School District

Report to the 2007/08 Budget Committee

Preliminary Analysis of Declining Enrollment

3/29/07

Draft 0.1

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Executive Summary

Based on the historical enrollment data, the district appears to have suffered a declining enrollment trend since the 1999/00 school year. This trend may be leveling out. Outgoing student data indicate that a significant percentage of students (from 18% - 41%) leave the district for other local options. Anecdotal data regarding the cause for this local attrition (not reported in this version of the report) suggest that further research would help the district better understand this problem.

Please note: This draft of the report does not include incoming/outgoing student data from grades K-6. In addition, this draft does not include Middle/High School incoming/outgoing student data for the years 2001/02 through 2003/04. The next version of this report will include this missing information, as well as the results of further research into the reasons that underlie local student attrition and the potential benefits of implementing exit interviews and satisfaction surveys.

Overview

The Orcas Island School District is experiencing a sustained period of declining enrollment. Since enrollment is directly tied to district revenue, this declining enrollment trend is causing the district's annual revenue to shrink. As a result, the district is being forced to face serious budget cuts.

In an effort to better understand the nature of this declining enrollment trend, the 2007/08 Budget Workshop Committee requested that a temporary sub-committee (consisting of Susan McCaull, Bob Connell, Barbara Skotte & Lea Bossler) be formed to research this issue.

This version of the report (Draft 0.1) is the result of our initial research and is being presented in draft form to the committee with the hope that it answers, at least in part, a portion of their question regarding declining enrollment.

Enrollment Trend Data

The district currently tracks enrollment on a monthly basis throughout the school year. In addition, the district office has been tracking enrollment trend data¹ (based on October enrollment counts) since 1978. Figure 1 through Figure 6 present summaries of this trend data. (Appendix A contains the complete data set used to generate these summaries.)

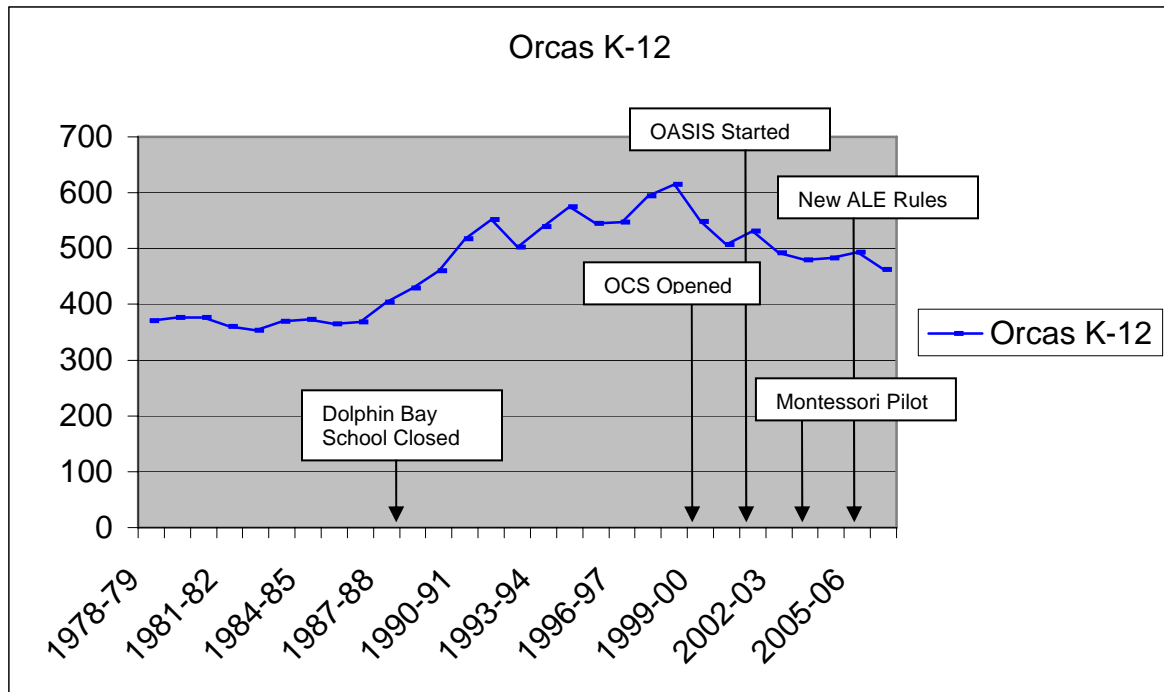


Figure 1: Overall K-12 Enrollment History (Based on October Enrollment Counts)

¹ The October enrollment count for 06/07 does not accurately reflect true 06/07 enrollment. This is due to the fact that the Elementary ALE program opened late and, as a result, enrollment reporting for that program did not begin until November 2006.

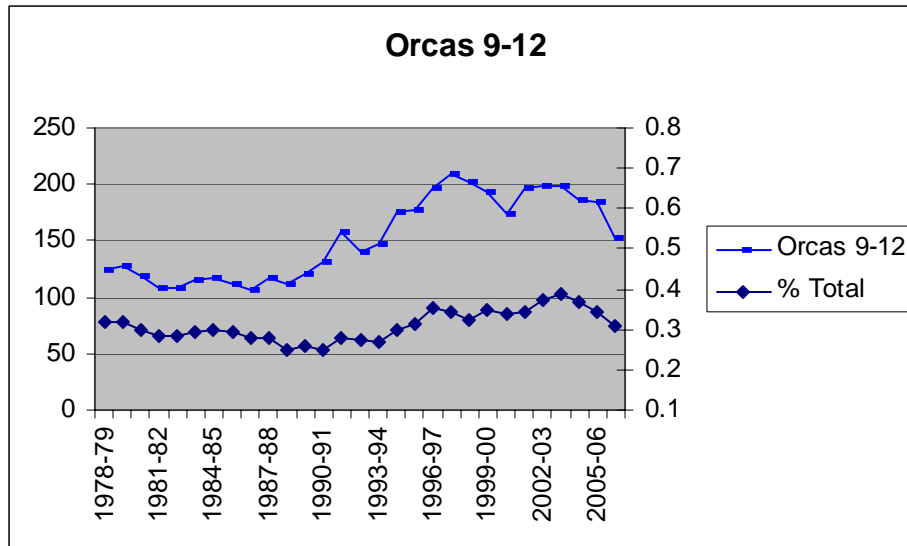


Figure 2: High School Enrollment History

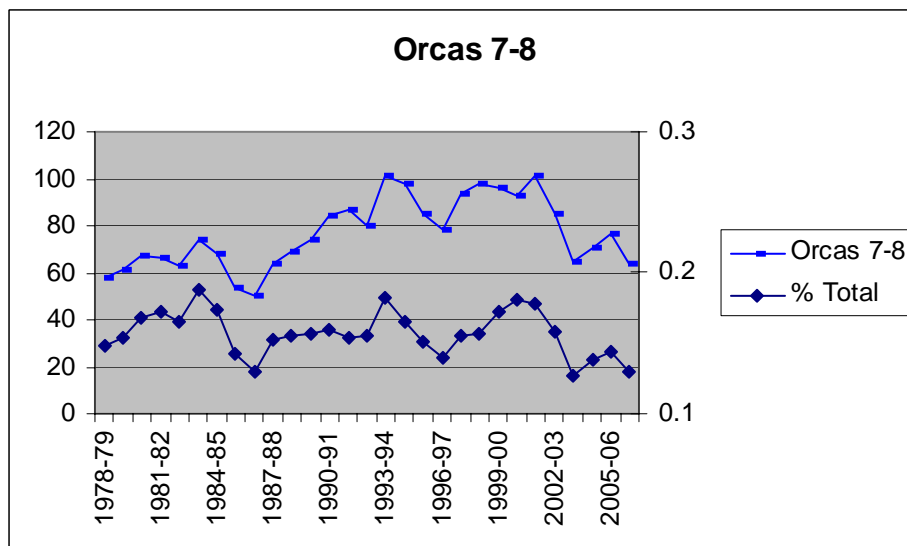


Figure 3: Middle School Enrollment History

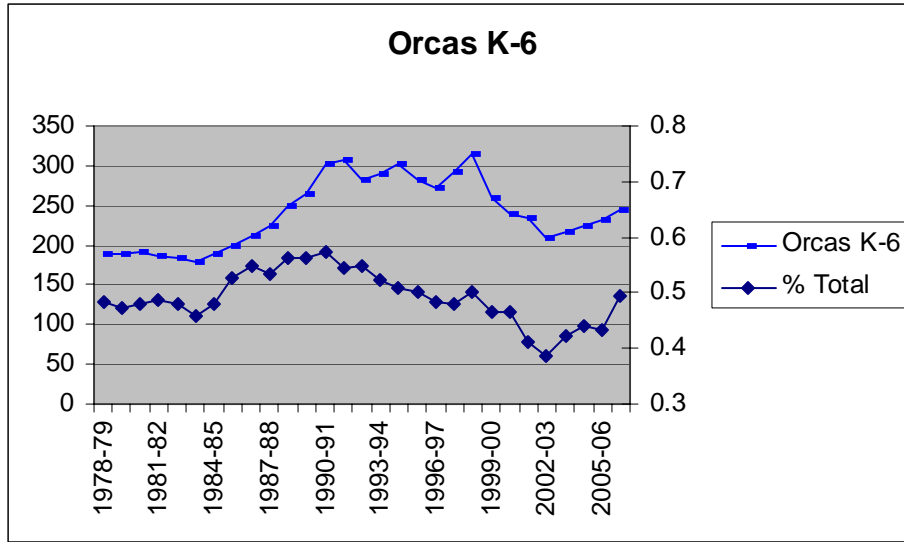


Figure 4: Elementary School Enrollment History

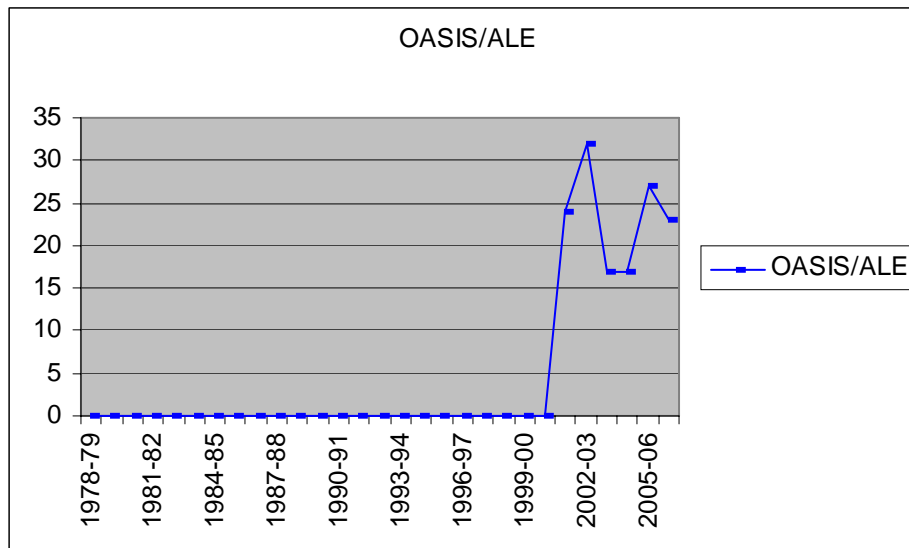


Figure 5: OASIS/ALE Enrollment History

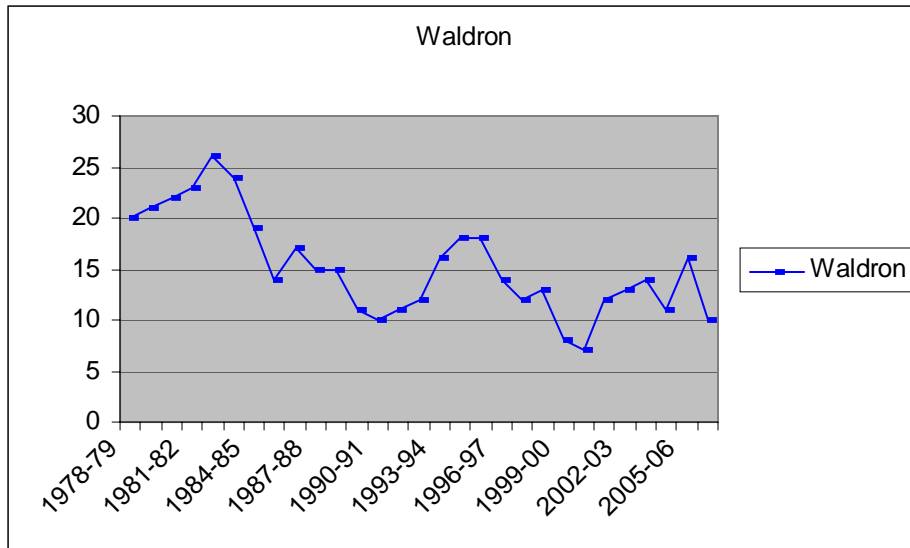


Figure 6: Waldron School Enrollment History

Incoming/Outgoing Student Data

The offices for the Elementary School and the Middle/High School track the sources of incoming students (new enrollment to the district) and destinations of outgoing students (reduced enrollment to the district). Figure 7 and Figure 8 present summaries² of this data. (Appendix B contains the data sets used to generate these summaries.)

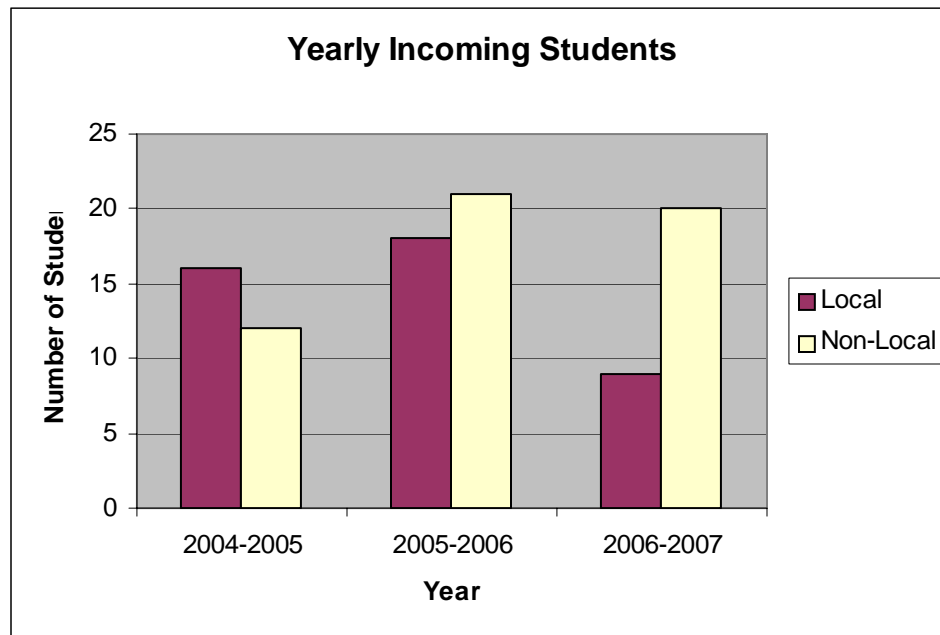


Figure 7: Sources of Incoming Students

Yearly Incoming Student Totals

Year	Local	Non-Local	Combined
2004-2005	16	12	
2005-2006	18	21	
2006-2007	9	20	
Total	43	53	96

Yearly Incoming Student Category % of Yearly Total

Year	Local	Non-Local
2004-2005	57%	43%
2005-2006	46%	54%
2006-2007	31%	69%

² In this draft of the report, these summaries do not contain data for grades K – 6.

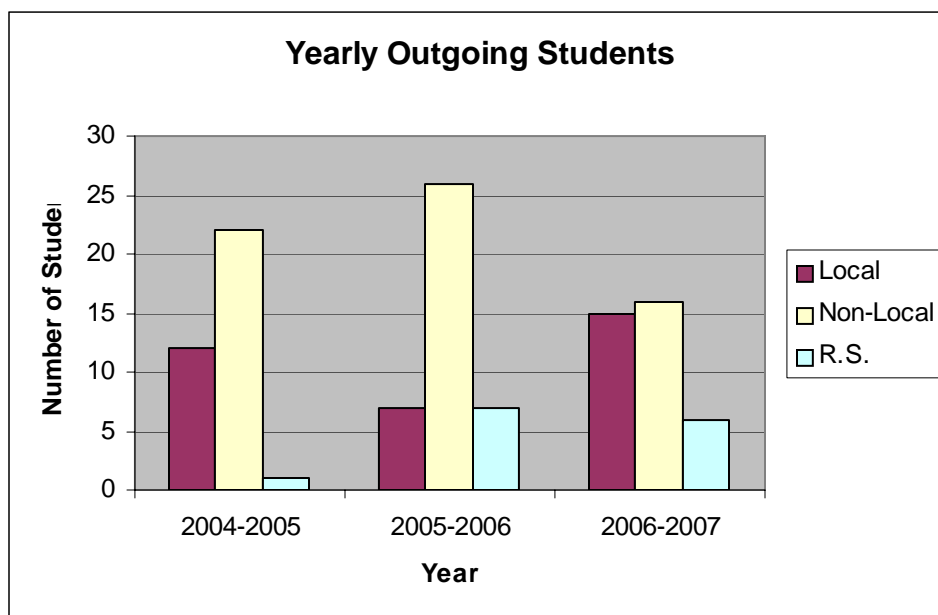


Figure 8: Destinations of Outgoing Students

Yearly Outgoing Student Totals

Year	Local	Non-Local	R.S.	Combined
2004-2005	12	22	1	
2005-2006	7	26	7	
2006-2007	15	16	6	
Total	34	64	14	98

Yearly Outgoing Student Category % of Yearly Total

Year	Local	Non-Local	R.S.
2004-2005	34%	63%	3%
2005-2006	18%	74%	20%
2006-2007	41%	46%	17%

Ratios of Outgoing and Incoming Students

	Total	%
Outgoing	98	50.5%
Incoming	96	49.5%

Conclusions

Since our research is not yet complete, we have not drawn any final conclusions at this time. Our preliminary conclusions are as follows:

- The data seem to indicate that a significant declining enrollment trend began in the 1999/00 school year. Data from the last two or three years (once it is adjusted for delayed program openings) may indicate that this trend has leveled off.
- A review of outgoing student data indicates that, although most outgoing students move to off-island destinations, a significant percentage (from 18% - 41%) move to other local destinations. Anecdotal data regarding the cause for this local attrition (not reported in this version of the report) indicate that further research would help achieve a better understanding of the district's declining enrollment trend.

Raw Enrollment Trend Data (1978/79 – 2005/06)

	<-----HUNTER----->					<---LINDBERG-->			<-----O'BRIEN----->			<-----FOX----->				<-----<-----ACKER----->----->							
	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	
K	22	11	21	27	23	23	28	32	32	35	36	33	44	39	35	42	46	33	29	42	42	28	
1	26	24	18	19	24	23	24	33	35	31	35	34	41	48	40	44	45	46	34	29	42	34	
2	34	28	28	19	23	26	27	23	33	38	29	38	37	42	43	40	42	39	44	38	38	36	
3	25	36	24	28	21	25	29	25	27	32	42	35	46	37	39	44	41	45	36	53	44	30	
4	29	28	38	26	30	25	28	29	29	29	41	49	41	43	39	38	45	36	46	41	47	36	
5	27	28	27	37	27	28	26	30	23	30	31	42	52	43	44	36	39	46	35	49	49	48	
6	26	33	35	30	35	30	26	27	32	28	35	34	41	55	43	46	43	38	48	40	53	47	
Orcas K-6	189	188	191	186	183	180	188	199	211	223	249	265	302	307	283	290	301	283	272	292	315	259	
7	30	30	38	34	32	39	30	24	24	36	31	34	43	42	48	49	49	42	40	52	45	51	
8	28	31	29	32	31	35	38	30	26	28	38	40	41	45	32	52	49	43	38	42	53	45	
Orcas 7-8	58	61	67	66	63	74	68	54	50	64	69	74	84	87	80	101	98	85	78	94	98	96	
9	24	28	31	27	25	32	39	37	27	33	32	38	37	41	41	39	61	52	51	46	39	57	
10	40	30	30	31	29	25	26	31	29	25	28	31	37	45	33	38	41	52	59	59	50	41	
11	30	42	26	25	28	31	22	20	30	25	28	26	35	33	34	37	38	39	50	54	56	42	
12	30	27	31	25	26	27	30	24	21	34	23	26	22	39	32	34	36	34	37	50	57	53	
Orcas 9-12	124	127	118	108	108	115	117	112	107	117	111	121	131	158	140	148	176	177	197	209	202	193	
Orcas K-12	371	376	376	360	354	369	373	365	368	404	429	460	517	552	503	539	575	545	547	595	615	548	
Waldron	20	21	22	23	26	24	19	14	17	15	15	11	10	11	12	16	18	18	14	12	13	8	
OASIS/ALE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL ALL	391	397	398	383	380	393	392	379	385	419	444	471	527	563	515	555	593	563	561	607	628	556	
										closure												OCS	
										of												opened	
										Dolphin Bay/													

Appendix A – Continued...

	<-----ACKER----->					<-JVH->	<HARRIS			
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
K	39	32	21	27	32	22	33			
1	25	38	27	29	33	44	23			
2	32	28	39	29	32	38	43			
3	34	37	25	39	27	33	37			
4	30	34	38	23	39	30	34			
5	35	27	31	37	20	44	29			
6	45	38	27	32	42	21	46			
<u>Orcas K-6</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>234</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>232</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
7	48	52	34	31	34	41	20			
8	45	49	51	34	37	36	44			
<u>Orcas 7-8</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
9	42	60	57	52	36	38	37			
10	57	42	47	61	51	39	38			
11	37	58	45	44	55	48	30			
12	38	36	50	42	45	60	48			
<u>Orcas 9-12</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Orcas K-12</u>	<u>507</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>492</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>494</u>	<u>462</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Waldron	7	12	13	14	11	16	10			
OASIS/ALE	0	24	32	17	17	27	23 ³			
TOTAL ALL	514	567	537	511	511	537	495³	0	0	0
		1st Yr		1st Yr		ALE				
		OASIS		Montessori		begins				
		Pilot		Pilot		Wald HS	Wald HS			

³ The October enrollment count for 06/07 does not accurately reflect true 06/07 enrollment. This is due to the fact that the Elementary ALE program opened late and, as a result, enrollment reporting for that program did not begin until November 2006.

Appendix B – Raw Incoming Source / Outgoing Destination Student Data (2004/05 – 2006/07)

2006/07 Outgoing Students

<i>grade</i>	<i>what school</i>
12	Running start
12	ALE program
12	Challis H.S., Challis, ID
12	Running start WD/2/5/2007
12	Mission H.S.; San Francisco, CA
12	ALE program
12	ALE program
12	ALE program re-enroll 1/15/2007
12	Running start
12	Drop from ALE program
12	?
12	Gulf Islands Sec. Sch; Salt Spring Island, CANADA
12	Taft Union H.S., Taft, CA
12	Running start
12	ALE program
12	Running start (WD/2/7/2007)
11	ALE program (WD 2/26/2007)
11	Back to Taiwan
11	ALE program
11	ALE program
11	to Seattle--re-enrolled ALE program 1/17/2007
11	Running start
11	to ALE program
11	Back to Alaska
10	Friday Harbor H.S., Friday Harbor, WA
10	Burlingame H.S., Burlingame, CA
10	Friday Harbor H.S., Friday Harbor, WA
10	Blaine H.S.; Blaine, WA
9	Eastside H.S., Lancaster, CA
9	Baker County H.S., Glen Saint Mary, FL
9	Orcas Christian Sch; Eastsound, WA
9	Back to ALE program
8	Harbor, Lights M.S.; Bandon, OR
8	Sherman M.S./Moro, OR
8	Back to Orcas Christian Sch
7	Warrenton Grade Sch.; Warrenton, OR
7	E.V.Cain Sch.; Auburn, CA
7	Orcas Christian Sch; Eastsound, WA

Appendix B – Continued...

2006-2007 Incoming Students

<i>grade</i>	<i>from school</i>
12	Elma H.S., Elma, WA
12	Mercer Island H.S., Mercer Island, WA
12	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
12	Squalicum H.S.;Bellingham, WA
11	Anchorage H.S.; Anchorage, AK
11	Homeschooled, to ALE program 2/1/2007
11	Exchange student from Germany
11	Lopez Island H.S.;Lopez Island, WA
10	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
10	Brentwood Academy, CANADA
10	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
10	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
9	Carolina Day Sch; Asheville, NC
9	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
9	Crestone Charter Sch.;Crestone, CO
9	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
8	Whatcom M.S., Bellingham, WA
8	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
8	Whitford M.S., Beaverton, OR
8	From Argentina
8	Meridan M.S.; Lynden, WA
8	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
8	Harbour Pointe M.S., Mukilteo, WA
8	Chief Joseph M.S.; Bozeman, MO
7	Rainbow Mntn Children's Sch;Asheville, NC
7	Orcas Christian School, ES,WA
7	Lynden M.S.; Lynden, WA
7	Friday Harbor M.S.;Friday Harbor, WA
7	Children's Learning Ctr, Alameda, CA

Appendix B – Continued...

2005-2006 Outgoing Students

<i>grade</i>	<i>what school</i>
12	Got GED
12	Back to Slovakia
12	Diploma thru Skagit College
12	Redmond H.S.; Redmond, WA
12	Orcas Christian School
12	Running Start
12	Got GED
12	Eastmont H.S.;East Wenatchee, WA
12	dropped
12	Griffin Bay School;Friday Harbor, WA
12	to Anacortes
12	Whatcom C.C.;Bellingham, WA
12	Career Tech Charter Sch: Lincoln City, OR
12	to get GED
12	will return next school year
12	Running Start
11	Elma H.S.;Elma, WA
11	Beavercreek H.S.; Beaver creek, OH
11	Orcas Christian School
11	Center School;Seattle, WA
11	To Boarding School (returned 3/2006)
11	To work (returned 3/2006)
11	to get GED
10	McCallie School;Chattanooga, TN
10	to Mexico
10	Hudson's Bay H.S.;Vancouver, WA
10	getting GED
10	Griffin Bay School;Friday Harbor, WA
9	Stanwood HS/Church Crk Campus;Stanwood, WA
9	Elma H.S.; Elma, WA
9	Brentwood School; Mill Bay, CANADA
8	Brentwood School; Mill Bay, CANADA
8	Independence M.S.;Independence, VA
8	Anacortes M.S.;Anacortes, WA
8	Whatcom M.S.;Bellingham, WA
8	Back to Lopez Island
7	Ocosta J.H.S.: Westport, WA
7	Whatcom M.S.;Bellingham, WA
7	Granite Falls M.S., Granite Falls,WA

Appendix B – Continued...

2005-2006 Incoming Students

grade	From School
12	Stony Point H.S.;Round Rock, TX
12	Seattle Academy;Seattle, WA
12	Flathead H.S.;Kalispell, MT (WD 4/2006)
12	Taft H.S.;Lincoln City, OR (WD 3/2006)
12	Orcas Christian School
12	from Ukraine (WD 12/15/2006)
12	Orcas Christian School
12	none (WD2/10/2006)
12	Griffin Bay H.S.: Friday Harbor, WA
11	Orcas Christian School
11	Orcas Christian School
11	Vancouver, BC
11	none
11	Returned for 1 class
10	Orcas Christian School
10	Exchange Student-Taiwan
10	Kalaheo H.S.; Kailua, HI
10	Orcas Christian School
10	Orcas Christian School
10	Orcas Christian School
9	Orcas Christian School
9	Clonlara School;Ann Arbor, MI
9	Eagle's Landing M.S.;McDonough, GA
9	Roosevelt M.S.; Lubbock,TX
9	Orcas Christian School
9	Ferndale H.S.;Ferndale, WA
8	Orcas Christian School
8	Orcas Christian School
8	Homeschooled (WD 10/10/2005)
8	Homeschooled (WD 4/2006)
8	Lopez M.S.;Lopez Island, WA(WD2/10/06)
8	Cole M.S.; Lancaster, CA
7	Seattle Academy;Seattle, WA
7	Orcas Christian School (WD11/4/2005)
7	Eagle's Landing M.S.;McDonough, GA
7	returned (WD 4/2006)
7	Spring Street Sch; Friday Harbor, WA
7	Orcas Chrisian School
7	Finley M.S.; Kennawick, Wa

Appendix B – Continued...

2004-2005 Outgoing students

<i>grade</i>	<i>what school</i>
12	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
12	to work
11	Mountain Ridge H.S.;Glendale, AZ
11	Dixie H.S.; St.George, UT
11	Private School
11	Taft H.S.; Lincoln City, OR
11	Mt.Vernon H.S.; Mt.Vernon, WA
11	Lake Washington H.S. Kirkland, WA
10	Cassville HS;Cassville, MO
10	StarMeadowsAcademy;Whitefish, MT
10	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
10	Anacortes H.S.;Anacortes, WA
10	to have baby
10	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
10	F.H. Alternative Sch;F.H., WA
10	Blaine H.S.; Blaine, WA
10	Friday Harbor Alter, Friday Harbor, WA
10	South Kitsap H.S.;Port Orchard, WA
10	Kamiak H.S.;Mukilteo, WA
10	F.H. Alternative Sch;F.H., WA
10	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
10	To get GED
9	Mt Baker H.S.; Deming, WA
9	Military School
9	R.J.Long H.S.; Longview, WA
9	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
9	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
8	Harney County Sch;McDonough, GA
8	to Texas
8	Spring Valley Sch.;Kalispell, MT
8	Mullan Jr/Sr HS; Mullan,ID
8	OAIAS Sch;Eastsound, WA
7	Orcas Christian Sch;Eastsound, WA
7	Homeschooled
7	VA

Appendix B – Continued...

2004-2005 Incoming Students

Gr	from school
12	From Slovakia
11	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
11	was suspended
10	Drew School, San Francisco, CA
10	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
10	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
10	Waldron Sch, Waldron Island, WA
10	South Kitsap H.S.; Port Orchard, WA
10	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
10	Lynden H.S.; Lynden, WA
9	Waldron Sch, Waldron Island, WA
9	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
9	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
9	Hudson's Bay H.S.; Vancouver, WA
9	Kent Meridan H.S.; Kent, WA
9	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
8	East Bay Sci & Art Sch, Oakland, CA
8	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
8	Oasis Alther.Sch: Eastsound, WA
8	Longview M.S.; Longview, WA
8	Mullan Jr/Sr H.S.; Mullan, ID
7	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
7	Homeschooled
7	Homeschooled
7	Anacortes, WA
7	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
7	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA
7	Christian Sch, Eastsound, WA