



COWICHAN VALLEY
School District

Welcome

January 8, 2026
7:00-8:00 pm

Agenda

- ✓ Land Acknowledgement
- ✓ Introductions
- ✓ Board Motion
- ✓ Board Policy
- ✓ Background & Enrollment Information
- ✓ Preview of Questions for Consultation
- ✓ Survey Option
- ✓ Organization of Groups for Feedback

Land Acknowledgement & Introductions



Board Motion – December 2025

(slide 1 of 2)

“Whereas the elementary student populations in Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary have been declining and are not projected to grow in the long-term enrolment projections;

And on September 2019, based on over population at Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary, the grade 7's were transferred to Chemainus Secondary;

And the Superintendent has evaluated:

- *Impact on the diversity and quality of educational programs;*
- *Safety, accessibility, and emotional well-being of students;*
- *Class sizes and staffing implications;*
- *Capacity and readiness of Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary to retain the grade 7s;*
- *Enrollment trends and future projections;*
- *Facility condition, age, associated maintenance or upgrade needs at Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary;*
- *Financial sustainability and funding considerations;*

Board Motion – December 2025 (continued slide 2 of 2)

That the Board of Education of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) begins the consultation process, concluding on February 20, 2026, to collect input from:

- *School staff and unions;*
- *District Parents' Advisory Council (DPAC);*
- *Chemainus Elementary, Crofton Elementary and Chemainus Secondary Parent Advisory Councils;*
- *Municipal Councils;*
- *Indigenous partners;*
- *Community organizations;*
- *Parents;*
- *Students;*

On the suitability of reconfiguring Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary to a K – 7 grade structure and Chemainus Secondary to an 8 – 12 grade structure beginning in the 2026/2027 or 2027/2028 school year.”

Board Policy

As per Policy 14, the Board seeks transparent, compassionate, inclusive feedback from the listed partner groups related to the educational needs and emotional well-being of students, families, and communities impacted by the reconfiguration being considered.

Policy 14

School Closure and/or Grade Reconfiguration

Purpose

To guide decisions regarding school closures and/or grade reconfigurations in a manner that is transparent, thoughtful, and responsive to the educational needs and emotional well-being of students, families, and communities. This policy acknowledges the significant impact such changes can have and seeks to ensure that all voices are heard and respected throughout the process.

Guiding Principles

- Student-Centered Approach: Prioritize high-quality educational experiences and equitable access for every student.
- Community Care: Recognize and honor the emotional and historical significance schools hold for families and communities.
- Responsible Stewardship: Ensure efficient use of resources while maintaining safe and supportive learning environments.
- Inclusive Engagement: Foster meaningful consultation with all stakeholders, especially parents and caregivers, to understand their perspectives and concerns.
- Data-Informed and Compassionate Decision-Making: Balance long-term planning with empathy and community input.

Initiation of Review

A review for potential school closure and/or grade reconfiguration may be initiated by the Superintendent or the Board. This step will be taken only after careful consideration of educational, operational, and community factors, and with a commitment to transparency and empathy.

Assessment Criteria

When considering changes, the following factors will be thoughtfully evaluated:

- Impact on the diversity and quality of educational programs.
- Safety, accessibility, and emotional well-being of students.
- Class sizes and staffing implications.
- Capacity and readiness of nearby schools to welcome affected students.
- Enrollment trends and future projections.
- Facility condition, age, and associated maintenance or upgrade needs.
- Financial sustainability and funding considerations.
- Potential for alternative community-serving uses of the facility.
- Level of community and parental support, concerns, and feedback.

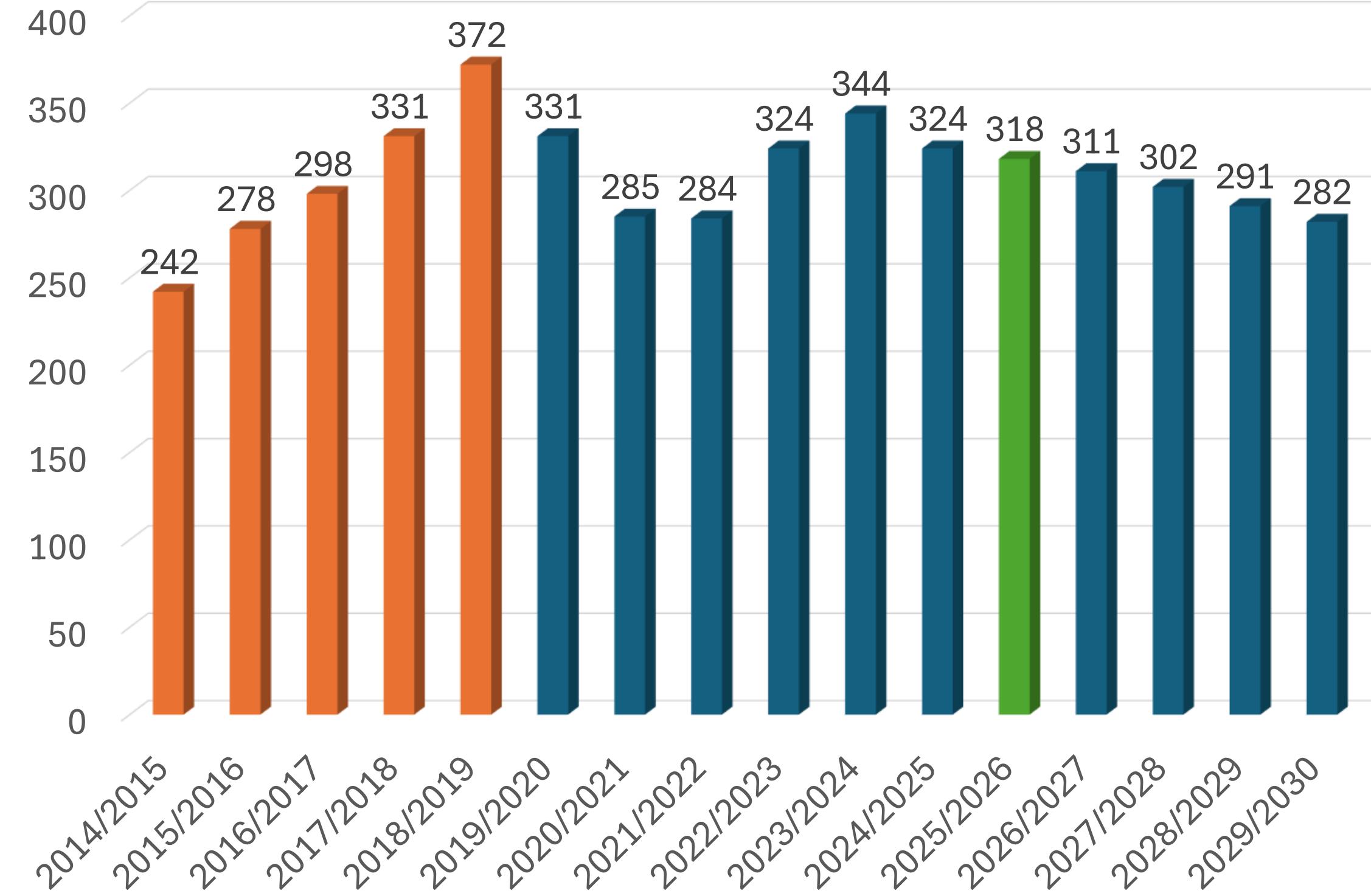
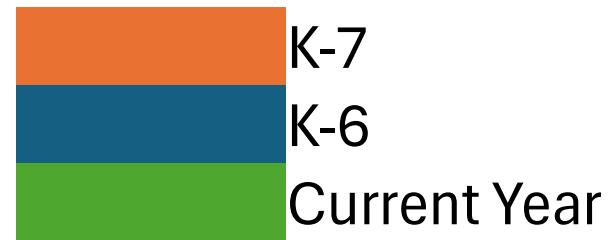
Cowichan Valley School District – Board of Education:

- [Policy 14 – School Closure and/or Grade Reconfiguration](#)

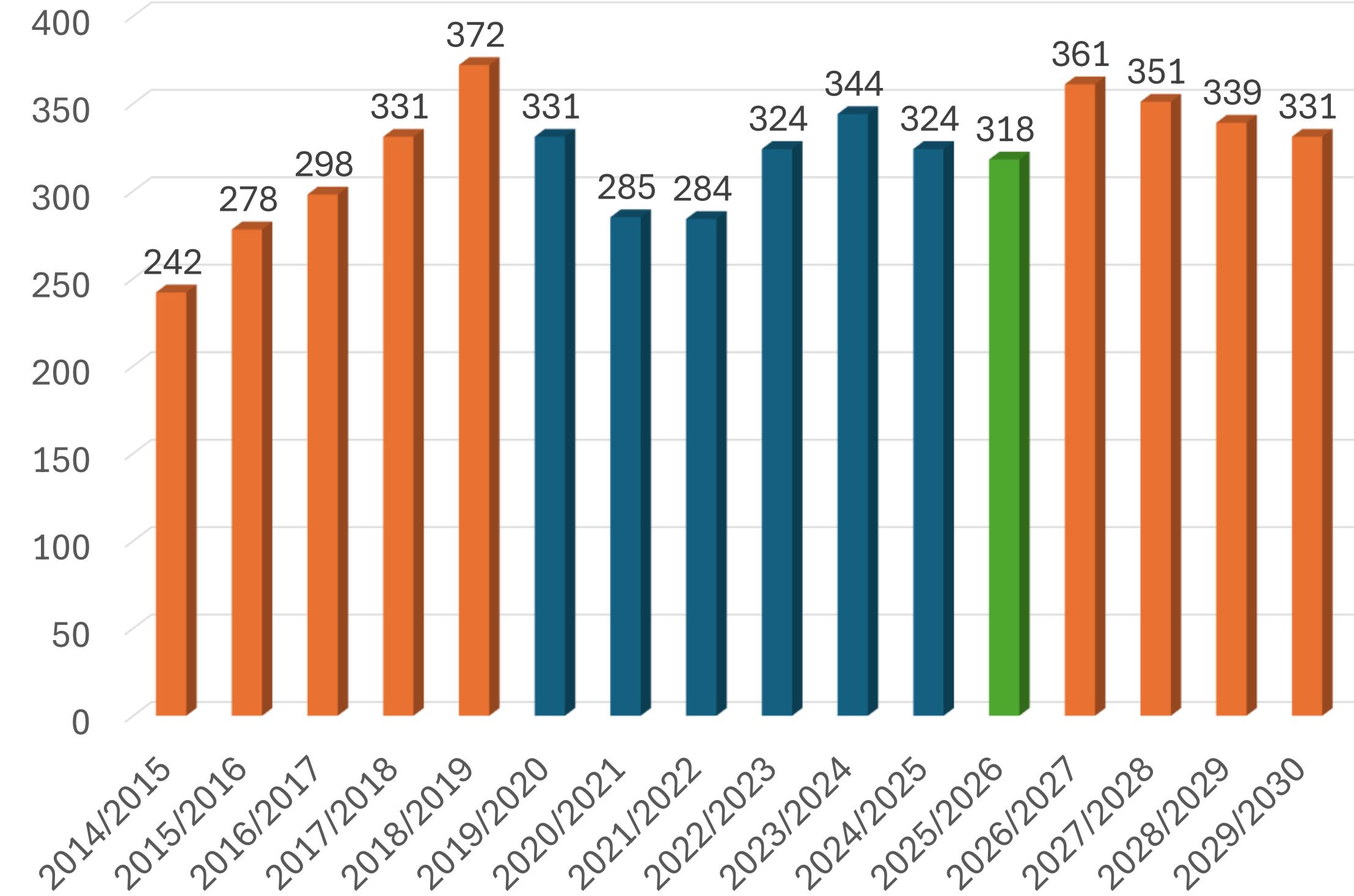
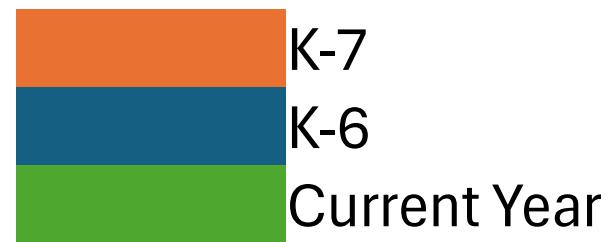
Background and Enrollment Information

- Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary schools experienced significant growth between 2014 and 2018;
- By 2018 both Elementary schools were at capacity while Chemainus Secondary School was underutilized;
- After community consultation during the winter of 2019 the following motion was passed by the Board of Education of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) at a Special Open Meeting of the Board on February 27, 2019:
 - *“That the Board of Trustees of School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley) relocate the Grade 7 program from Chemainus and Crofton Elementary schools to Chemainus Secondary beginning in 2019/2020 and the Grade 6 programs together when the purchase of another portable becomes necessary at either school.”*

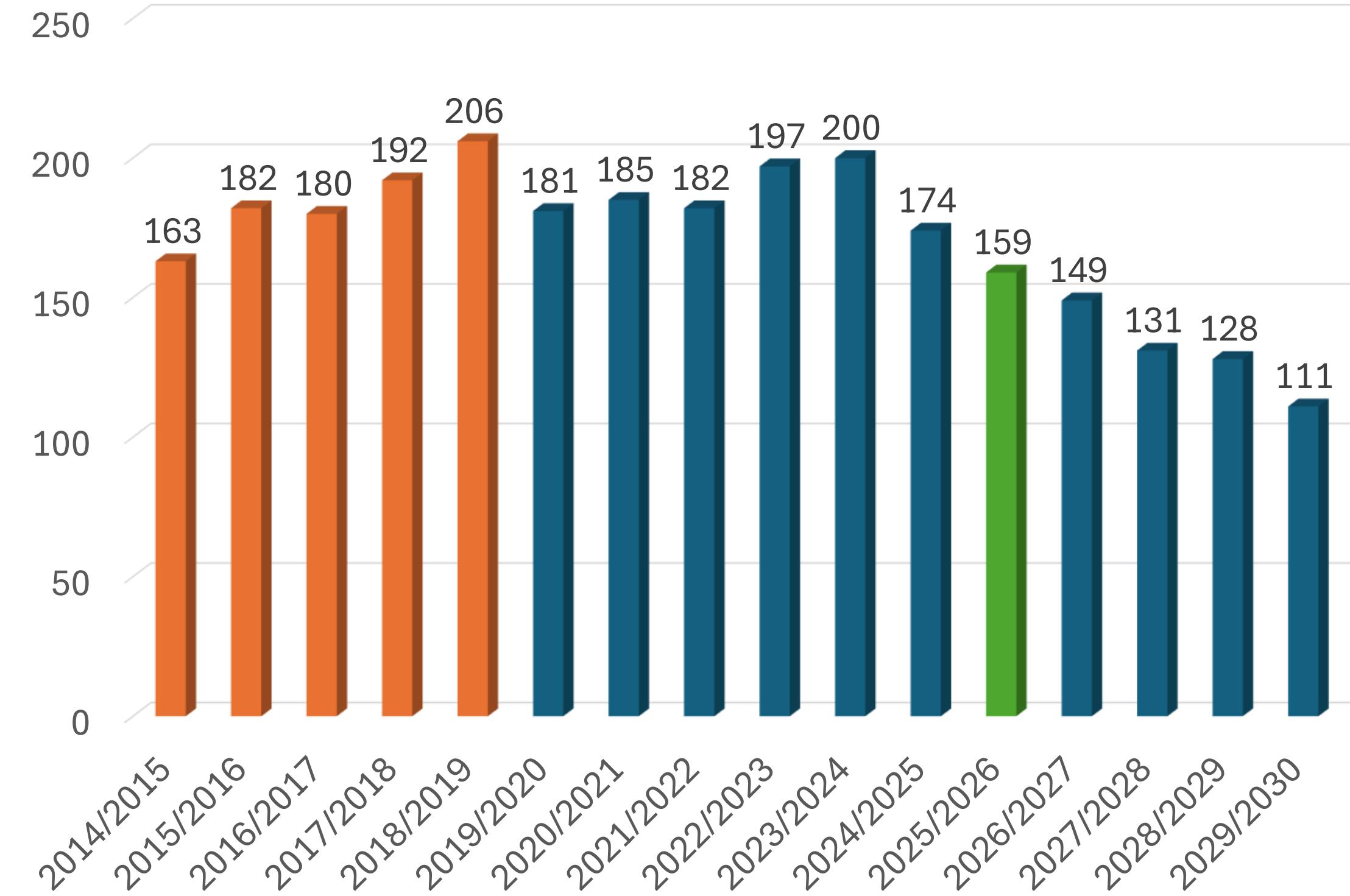
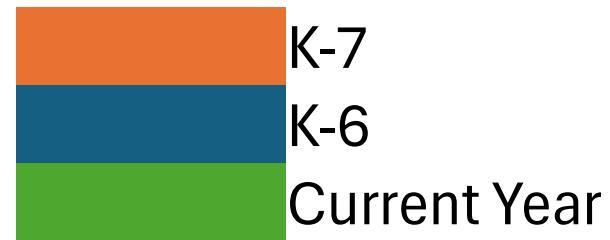
Enrolment Information – Chemainus Elementary K-6



Enrolment Information – Chemainus Elementary K-7

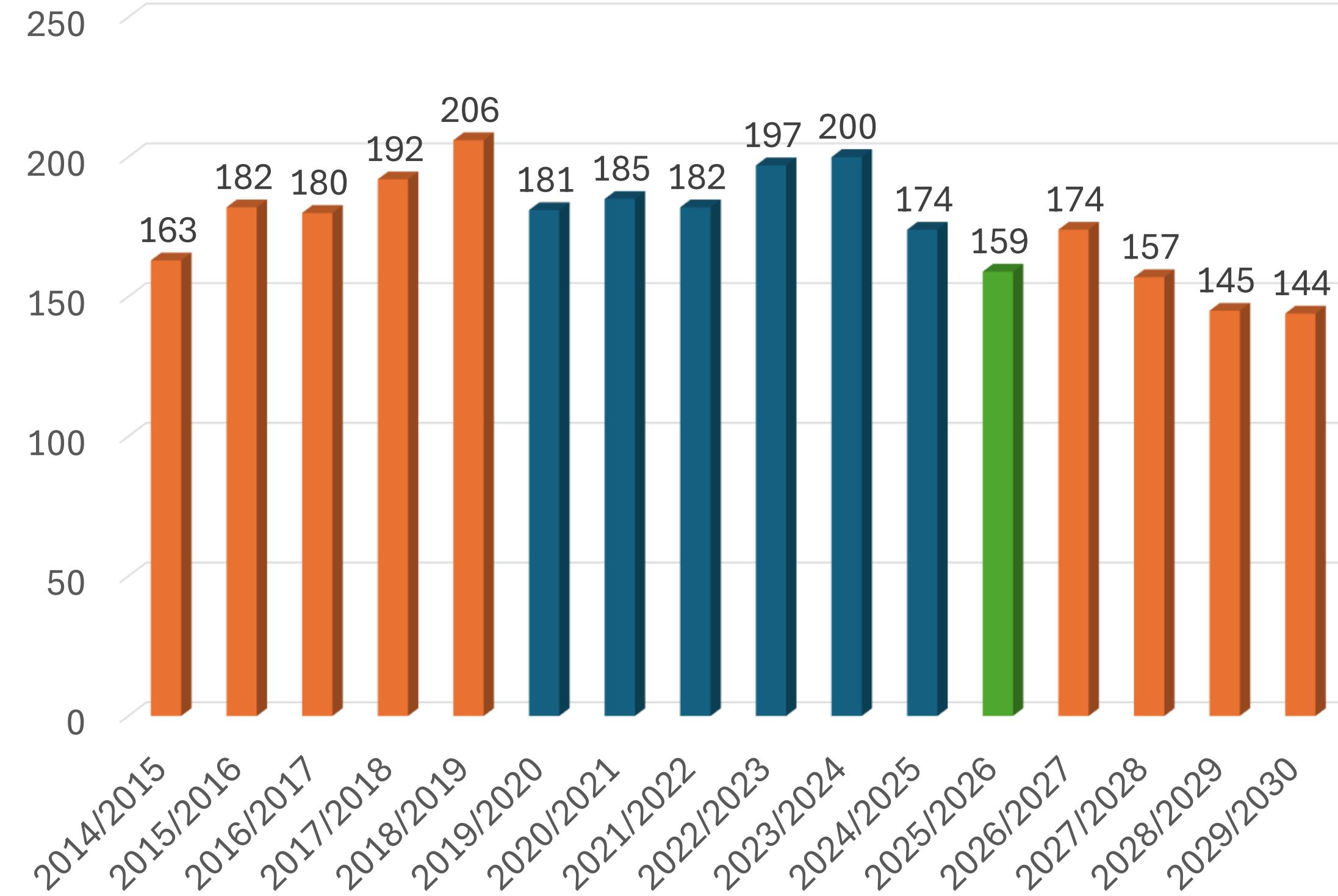


Enrolment Information – Crofton Elementary K-6

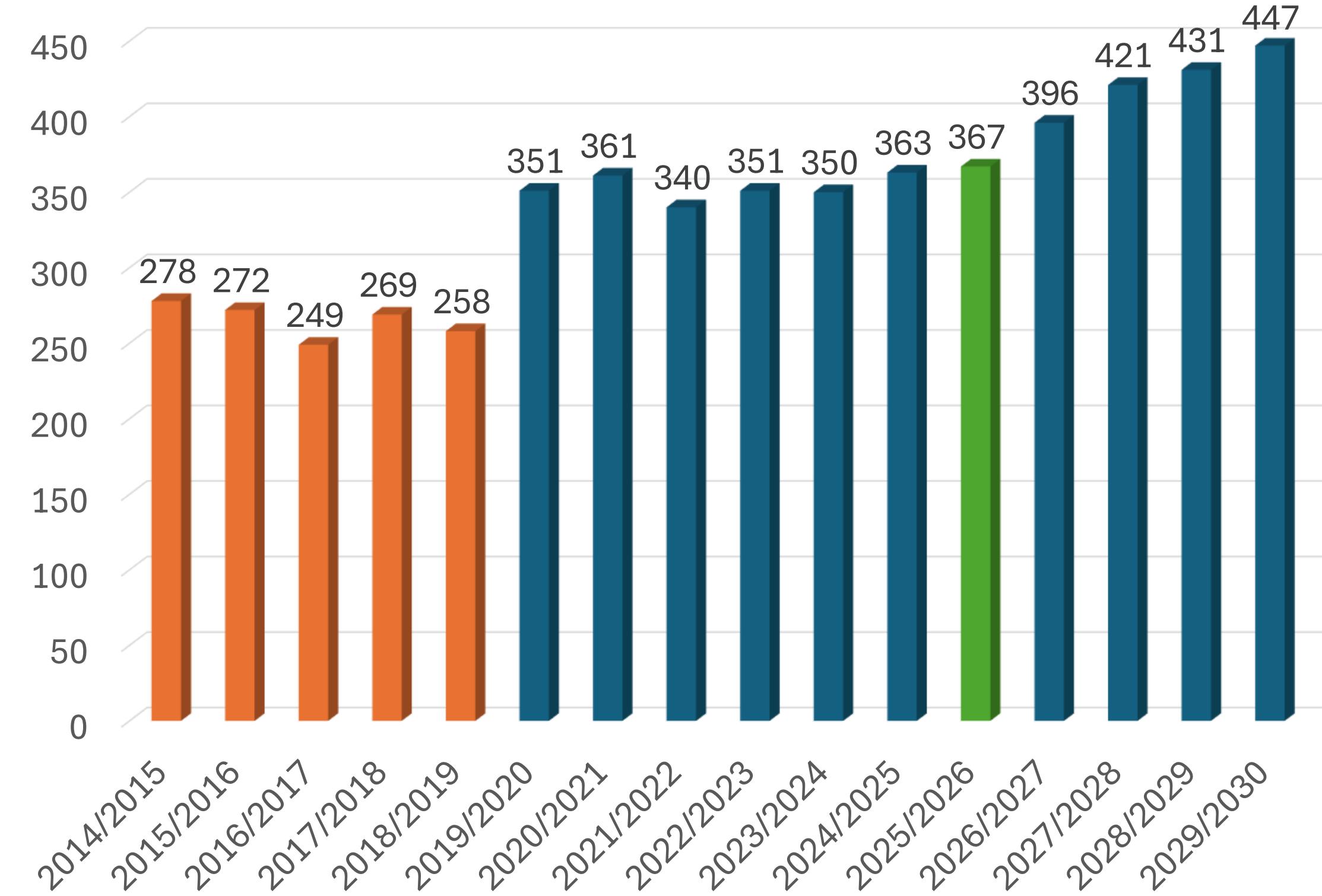
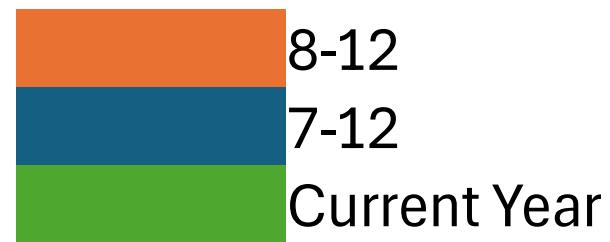


Enrolment Information – Crofton Elementary K-7

 K-7
 K-6
 Current Year

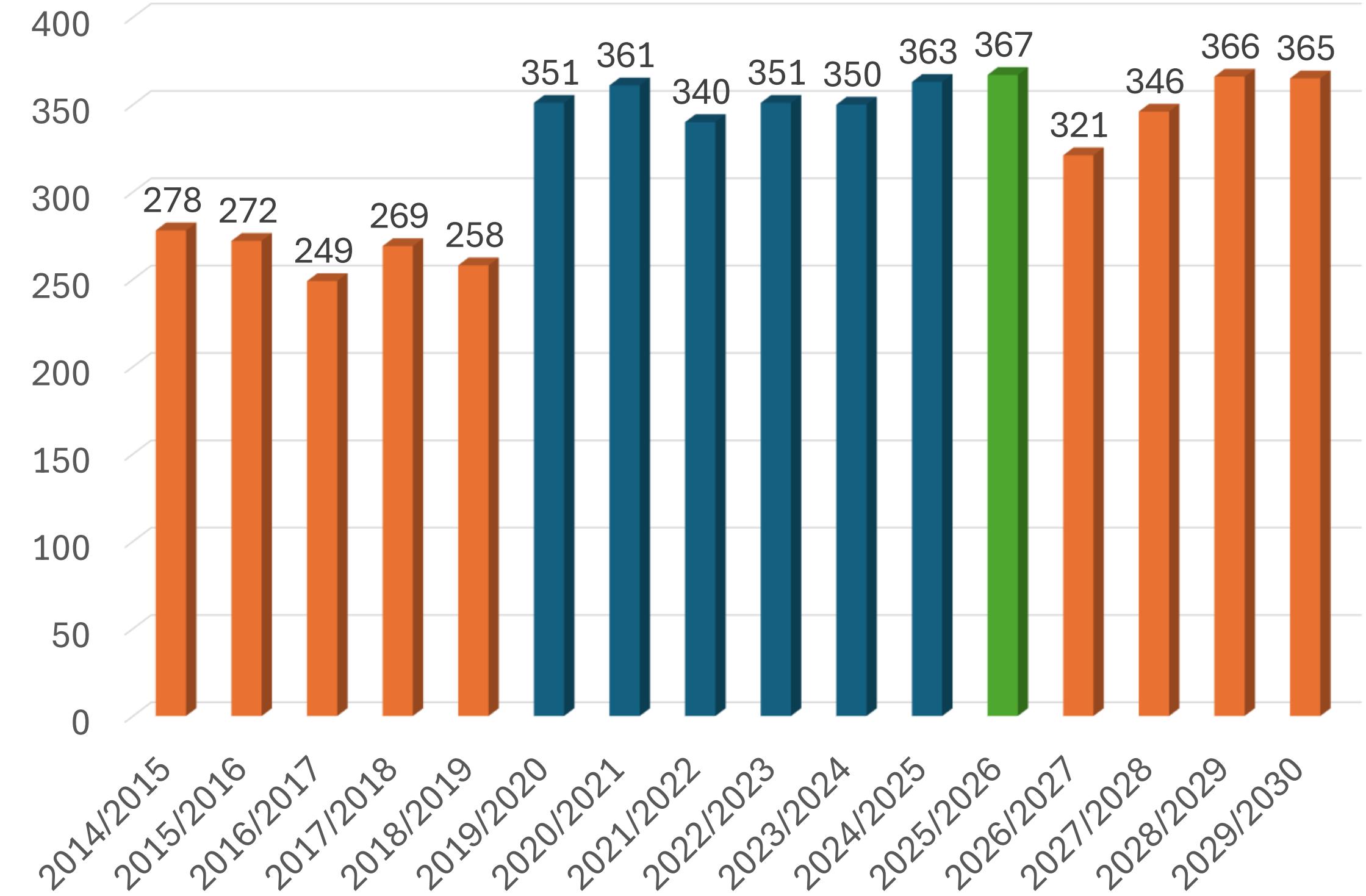


Enrolment Information – Chemainus Secondary 7-12



Enrolment Information – Chemainus Secondary 8-12

8-12
7-12
Current Year



Questions to Gather Feedback

- What are the advantages or disadvantages of reconfiguration so Grade 7 students attend Chemainus Elementary and Crofton Elementary (K–7)?
- What are the advantages or disadvantages of Grade 7 remaining at Chemainus Secondary in the current configuration of Grades 7–12?
- If Grade 7 were to move back to the elementary schools, what are the benefits of doing so in September 2026?
- What are the benefits of doing so in September 2027?
- Other comments or considerations.

Survey Option

- Survey is open January 8-23, 2026
- Full consultation is closed by February 20, 2026
- Board decision is expected by March 31, 2026

Organizing into Groups



Closing

