



Somersworth Elementary Reorganization

Subtitle

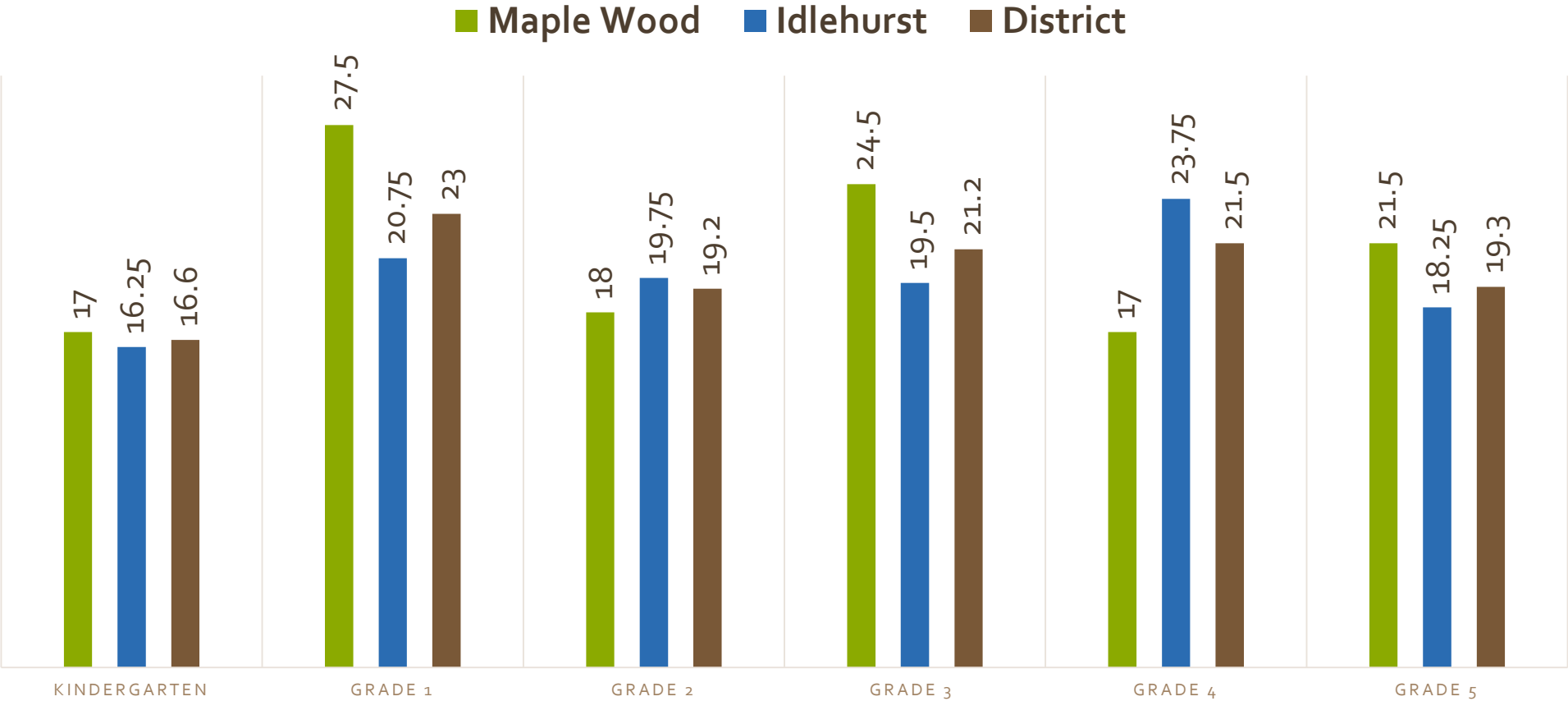


Our Goals

- An equal and balanced education for Somersworth students
- Balance demographics to reflect a true Somersworth student population
- Eliminate comparisons and competition between two elementary schools
- Increase collaboration amongst grade level classroom teachers
 - All grade level teachers see each other every day instead of only a few times per year
 - Target professional development for developmental level
 - Pre K- Grade 2 → learn to read
 - Grade 3 – Grade 5 → read to learn
- Increase student services with no impact to the budget
 - Researching elementary reorganization was a priority set by our school board during the January 27th budget workshop
 - This is the 3rd time organizational change has been discussed since Idlehurst was built.
- Help students transition to middle school

Balanced education

ELEMENTARY CLASS SIZES



Equal Education

- Additional administrator at Maple Wood
- Reading specialist at Maple Wood
- Redistribute Special education and title 1 service providers
- Share a counselor for 2nd to 3rd grade transition
- Middle School would share a counselor for 5th to 6th grade transition
- All Somersworth students would get the same essential classes Art, Music, PE, Health, Library, and Computer.

	Maple Wood	Idlehurst
Student (K-5)	268	473
Admin	1	2
Counselor	1	2
ESOL	0	2.5
Special Ed teacher (k-5)	3	5
Special Ed para's	3.5	5
Title I tutor's	2	6
Speech	1	1.5
Speech asst.	0.5	1
Literacy Specialist	0	1

Re-organization concerns

- Pick-up & Drop-off
 - Administration is working with the bus company to have a staggered times for beginning and end of the day.
- Schools have their own identities and history
 - All Somersworth students would get to enjoy both schools.
- Bathrooms, playgrounds, Maple Wood gym
 - Both buildings currently meet the needs of k-5 students. We will continue to meet their needs.
 - The building and grounds committee is looking at reconfiguring the entrance at Maple Wood with \$100,000 grant award from the state.
 - Building and grounds committee is looking at a general facility upgrade at Maple Wood

Re-organization concerns

- Space Issues
 - Idlehurst does not have room to add an autism or a behavior program
 - Maple Wood has plenty of room (It used to be the big school) but does not have the staff to add a behavior program.



Re-organization concerns

- Added transition for students
 - Pre-K students transition
 - 15-20 students transition in Kindergarten
 - Many students transition because of where they live in Somersworth
 - Research is inconclusive about elementary transitions
- Transition planning
 - 2nd grade visits to Maple Wood
 - Shared counselor to help with social emotional and familiarity
 - Joint school events
 - One elementary PTA, PTO...???



Family and community feedback

Priorities... Concerns... Things to consider...

