

concerns. The postal service for the area includes four rural routes, 2,424 deliveries, and 419 post office boxes.

Although a regional U.S. Postmaster office concluded that a building expansion or a new building was required in the late 1990's, there appear to be no plans for any expansion or new construction of a post office in the New Hudson area.

Generally the U.S. Postmaster leases space for its post offices, which is the case for the New Hudson post office. With all the new commercial development that occurred and is expected in the New Hudson area over the next 5-15 years, it is hopeful a creative and entrepreneurial developer will see this opportunity to assist the Post Office and incorporate a new post office into their development project

The Lyon Center Vision Plan strongly suggested that the post office should remain in the hamlet of New Hudson. The traffic a post office generates will assist local business.

Cemeteries

There are four municipal cemeteries in the Township. Only the New Hudson Cemetery, located on Milford Road north of Grand River Avenue, has capacity. No more plots are available in the three other cemeteries, which are: Rose Cemetery at Eleven Mile Road west of Stancrest, Kensington Cemetery on Grand River near Kent Lake, and the Township Cemetery at Nine Mile and Chubb Roads. There are no privately-owned or church cemeteries; the Township is the sole provider of cemetery space in the Township.

The New Hudson Cemetery is nearing capacity and all the vacant land surrounding it is privately owned. Therefore, expansion would require purchasing additional land. Alternatively, the Township could establish a fifth cemetery on suitable land owned or acquired by the Township. There are no plans in place to achieve either of these options. Past attempts to establish sites have been unsuccessful. Perhaps the best solution is to expand the Kensington Cemetery. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, which owns the land adjacent to this cemetery, would not sell or trade land when previously approached. Renewed efforts may yield better results. Additional capacity may be found in South Lyon or Wixom as well.

School Facilities

Education plays a vital role in the development of a community. While the Township has a limited effect on school policies, municipal policies, especially in respect to population growth, can have an enormous impact on the school system. Ideally, the relationship between the Township and School District planning is one of coordination and cooperation. The purpose of this section is to assess school facilities as a factor in setting planning goals. Secondly, the section attempts to identify opportunities where the Township can work with the School District in solving existing and potential education problems.

Most of Lyon Township lies within the South Lyon Community School District. The district has seven elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools. Three of the elementary schools - Dolsen, Hardy, and Kent Lake - are located in the Township. The new South Lyon East High School is also located within the Township. In addition, the district's environmental services/transportation facility, which includes the school bus garage and transportation yard, is located in the Township.

High Schools - *South Lyon High School*, which includes grades 9 through 12, was completed in 1990. It is a 315,820 square foot building on a 101.75-acre site on Pontiac Trail, south of Eleven Mile Road. The enrollment for the 2009-10 school year was 1,220 students, and the approximate capacity for the building is 1,670 students.

South Lyon East High School, located at the intersection of Ten Mile Road at Johns Road, opened in 2007. The 314,927-square foot facility is located on 55.4 acres and has a capacity of 1,200 students. The school had 897 students in the 2009-10 school year.

Middle Schools - There are also two middle schools in the South Lyon district, both of which are located in the City of South Lyon.

Centennial Middle School was constructed in 1976. At that time, it served as a junior high school. Then, in 1990, when South Lyon High School was built, the original high school building was converted into a middle school, and Centennial became an elementary school. It served that purpose until 2001. Reopened in the fall of 2002 after extensive renovations, Centennial once again serves grades 6-8 as the district's second middle school. The 109,428-square foot facility, on 15 acres, is located in South Lyon on Nine Mile Road east of Dixboro Road. The 2009-10 enrollment was 807 students and the capacity is 725 students.

Millennium Middle School, the other middle school, is located at Nine Mile Road and Pontiac Trail in South Lyon. Serving grades 6-8, the 2009-10 enrollment was 879. The 188,830-square foot facility has a capacity of 1,150 students. When the structure was built in 1969, it originally served as the district high school. Then, in 1990 when South Lyon High School was built, this structure was converted to the middle school and has remained as such ever since.

When these middle schools near capacity and the school district sees and anticipates growing elementary school populations, the potential for a third middle school to be constructed at Ten Mile Road, east of Chubb Road has been discussed. The district has purchased 35 acres next to Hardy Elementary School and could open a new middle school on that site.

Elementary Schools - South Lyon Community School District currently operates seven elementary schools. Three of these facilities are located within the Township.

Sayre Elementary School, constructed in 1960, is one of the older structures in use. The 41,215-square foot building is located on a 17.6-acre site on Valerie Street, north of Nine Mile Road in the City of South Lyon. The 2009-10 enrollment was 532 students, and the school's capacity is 520 students.

Dolsen Elementary School, located near the center of New Hudson, is the district's oldest school. The original building was constructed in 1922. There have been several additions to the building since, and the renovations have included technological upgrades that have placed teacher and student computers in each classroom, as well as allow for computer presentations by teachers. It is the only school in the district which does not meet the minimum recommended size established by the National Education Association. The NEA recommends a minimum site area of 10 acres for an elementary school. The 2009-10 enrollment of 353 students is less than the building's capacity of approximately 575 students.

Maintaining a public use like an elementary school is an essential element for the traditional town plan developed for New Hudson. The playground at the school provides for vital recreational opportunities for children living in the surrounding neighborhood. Plus, a school makes the area more attractive to developers and buyers.

Bartlett Elementary School is located on School Street in South Lyon, northwest of Lake and Lafayette. Constructed in 1951, the 70,157-square foot building on 28 acres has a capacity of 520 students. Bartlett's 2009-10 enrollment was 392 students.

Salem Elementary School, constructed in 1963, is located in Salem Township. Grades K-5 are housed within the 38,717-square foot building on 10.6 acres. Salem Elementary had an enrollment of 302 in 2009-10.

Brummer Elementary School is a 68,585–square foot K-5 facility that opened in the fall of 2000. It is located in Green Oak Township. The 2009-10 enrollment of 452 was below the school's 610 student capacity. The school was designed around a neighborhood theme, with each of the four different neighborhoods working as a school within a school. This promotes unity and belonging as teachers establish communities within the school.

Kent Lake Elementary School was open for the 2001-02 school year. The 72,113-square foot facility is located on 34 acres in the Township, on Kent Lake Road between Silver Lake Road and Grand River Avenue. The 2009-10 enrollment of 586 students was below its 635-student capacity.

Hardy Elementary School, opened in the fall of 2004, is the seventh elementary school in the system. With a capacity of 610 students, it is located in Lyon Township on Ten Mile Road, east of Chubb Road on a 17.5-acre site. Hardy Elementary is a 72,685-square foot facility, the largest elementary school yet. Hardy Elementary recorded 660 students in the 2009-10 school year.

The recession that brought housing construction to a halt in the latter part of the decade, coupled with a restructuring of the regional economy, brought an awareness that the population of the Township and surrounding communities would not grow at the pace once projected. Consequently, it is likely that capacity in existing schools will be able to accommodate student enrollments in the next 5-10 years. If the need develops, the School District owns property in the Elkow Farms Planned Development for an elementary school, and the Woodwind Planned Development for a middle school.