

<http://www.seattleschools.org/area/facilities-plan/Choice/05-06AppsChoicesBoardApril2005final.pdf>

School Choices and Assignments 2005-2006 School Year

School Board Report
April 2005

Outline of Presentation

- ◆ A report on school assignments processed in March 2005 for the 2005-06 school year
- ◆ District-wide and grade level views
 - Applications
 - Choices
 - Assignments
 - Waitlists

District-wide View On-Time Applications

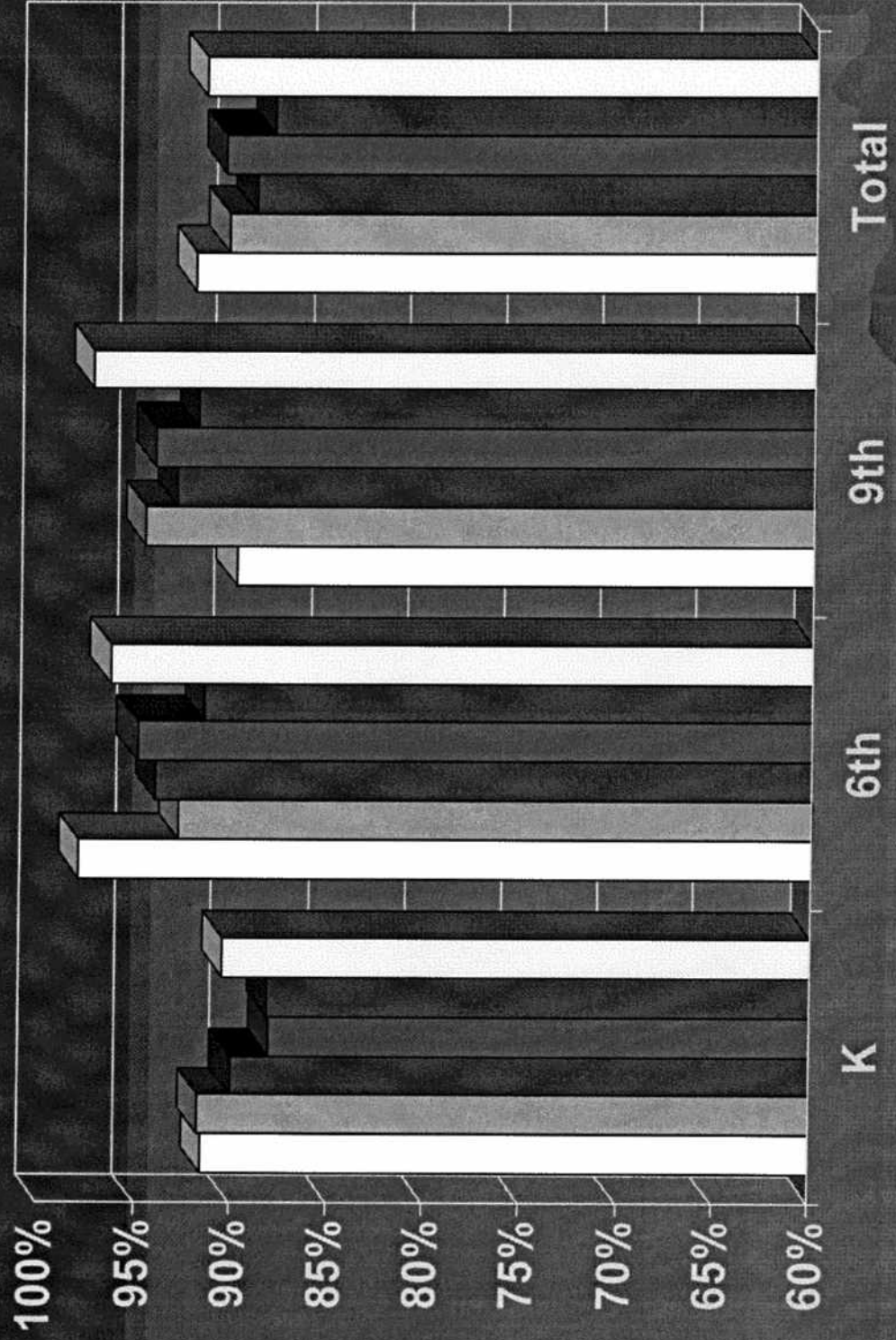
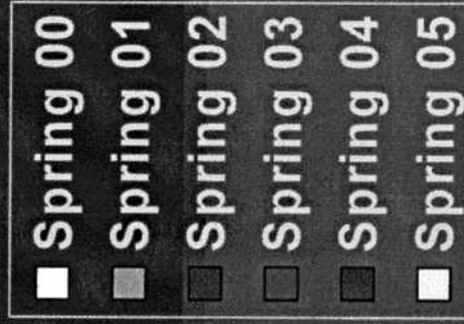
- ◆ 10,854 applications received and processed
- ◆ On-time enrollment period
 - January 18 through February 28, 2005
- ◆ Overall decrease of 289 applications from last year
 - Elementary applications decreased by 168
 - ◆ Kindergarten increased by 67
 - Middle School applications decreased by 191
 - ◆ Sixth grade decreased by 227
 - High School applications increased by 70
 - ◆ Ninth grade decreased by 31
 - Applications to transfer between schools decreased by 80

District-wide View On-Time Assignments

Percent of students receiving 1st and 2nd choice assignments

- ◆ District-wide increased from 88.1% last year to 91.6% this year
- ◆ Kindergarten increased from 88.1% last year to 90.5% this year
- ◆ 6th grade increased from 91.5% last year to 96.4% this year
- ◆ 9th grade increased from 91.9% last year to 97.4% this year
- ◆ Decrease in mandatory assignments from 3.7% to 1.7%

District-wide First and Second Choice Assignments by Grade Level



Assignment Factors

- ◆ Number of applications received
 - Entry grades: fewer applications for sixth and ninth grades than last year; more for kindergarten
 - Non-entry grades: More for middle and high school students; fewer for elementary students
- ◆ School capacity
 - Increase of 185 9th grade seats
- ◆ Choice patterns
 - Decreased choices to some popular schools
 - Small number of popular schools
 - Decreased transfer applications
- ◆ Policies
 - Tiebreakers - use of the integration tiebreaker has been suspended for the last 3 years
 - Processing methodology - Barnhart/Waldman processing has been used for the past 4 years

New Assignment Policies

- ◆ New waiting list option allows parents to select a waiting list school other than their first choice
 - Approximately 600 students selected a waiting list school other than their first choice; 51 were actually placed on a waiting list
 - ◆ 37 elementary, 7 middle, and 7 high school students
 - 90% are on the waiting list for their second choice school
 - Selected waiting list schools varied; most often selected were:
 - ◆ Elementary: Salmon Bay (7) and Stevens (7)
 - ◆ Middle: Washington (4)
 - ◆ High: Garfield (3)

New Assignment Policies Continued

- ◆ 20% of TOPS kindergarten seats assigned using distance tiebreaker
 - 6 students were assigned: 5 regular, 1 bilingual
 - Closest lived 315 feet from school; farthest lived 2,075 feet

Elementary Choices and Assignments

Elementary Applications

- ◆ Applications for elementary grades decreased by 168 (3.6%)
 - 3,218 Kindergarten applications received, 67 more than last year
 - 800 applications for transfers to other elementary schools, a 21% decrease from last year
 - ◆ Proportion of transfer applications also decreased, from 22% to 18%
- ◆ Application trends by cluster
 - Increases in North, Northeast, Northwest, Queen Anne/Magnolia, Southeast, and West Seattle North.
 - Decrease in South, West Seattle South and Central.
 - These patterns support the long range projections.

Elementary Choice Patterns

- ◆ First choices for kindergarten to a home reference area school range from 3.2% to 86.3%; district total is 41%
- ◆ 74% of kindergarten first choices are to schools within the resident cluster; this proportion ranges from 64% in the North to 93% in Queen Anne/Magnolia
- ◆ First choices to alternative schools have remained between 12%-13% district-wide during the last four years
 - The proportion decreased in the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and West Seattle South clusters, and increased in the Central cluster
- ◆ Often 2 very popular schools in each cluster receive half the 1st choices, thus concentrating wait lists

Elementary In-Cluster Choices

Cluster	Most Popular School	Second Most Popular School
North	Broadview (27%)	Olympic View (21%), Bagley (21%)
Northeast	Laurelhurst (25%)	Bryant (23%), View Ridge (23%)
Northwest	J. Stanford Int'l (23%)	Whittier (20%)
QA/Magnolia	John Hay (34%)	Coe (29%)
Central	Stevens (29%)	McGilvra (21%)
South	Kimball (29%)	Beacon Hill (16%)
Southeast	Brighton (25%)	Emerson (16%)
West Seattle N.	Lafayette (38%)	Schmitz Park (26%)
West Seattle S.	Arbor Heights (27%)	Concord (21%)

Elementary Assignment Results

- ◆ Overall, elementary first and second choice assignments increased from 85.9% to 87.1%.
- ◆ Kindergarten first and second choice assignments increased from 88.1% to 90.5%
- ◆ Elementary mandatory assignments continue to decrease; 4.8% in 2002 to 2.7% in 2005
- ◆ Assignments to alternative schools remain at about 9%
 - Increase among students living in the Central and West Seattle North clusters
 - Decrease among students in the Northeast, Southeast, and West Seattle South clusters

Kindergarten Waitlists

- ◆ Choices increased by 67 and wait lists decreased by 87
- ◆ Many of the oversubscribed schools had a reduction in 1st choices
- ◆ New waiting list choice option helped limit some waitlists

School	Waitlist		School	Waitlist	
	2004	2005		2004	2005
TOPS	88	63	Salmon Bay	52	49
J. Stanford Intl.	64	69	View Ridge	43	33
Whittier	64	60	Lafayette	43	18
McGilvra	54	15	Coe	38	12

Middle School Choices and Assignments

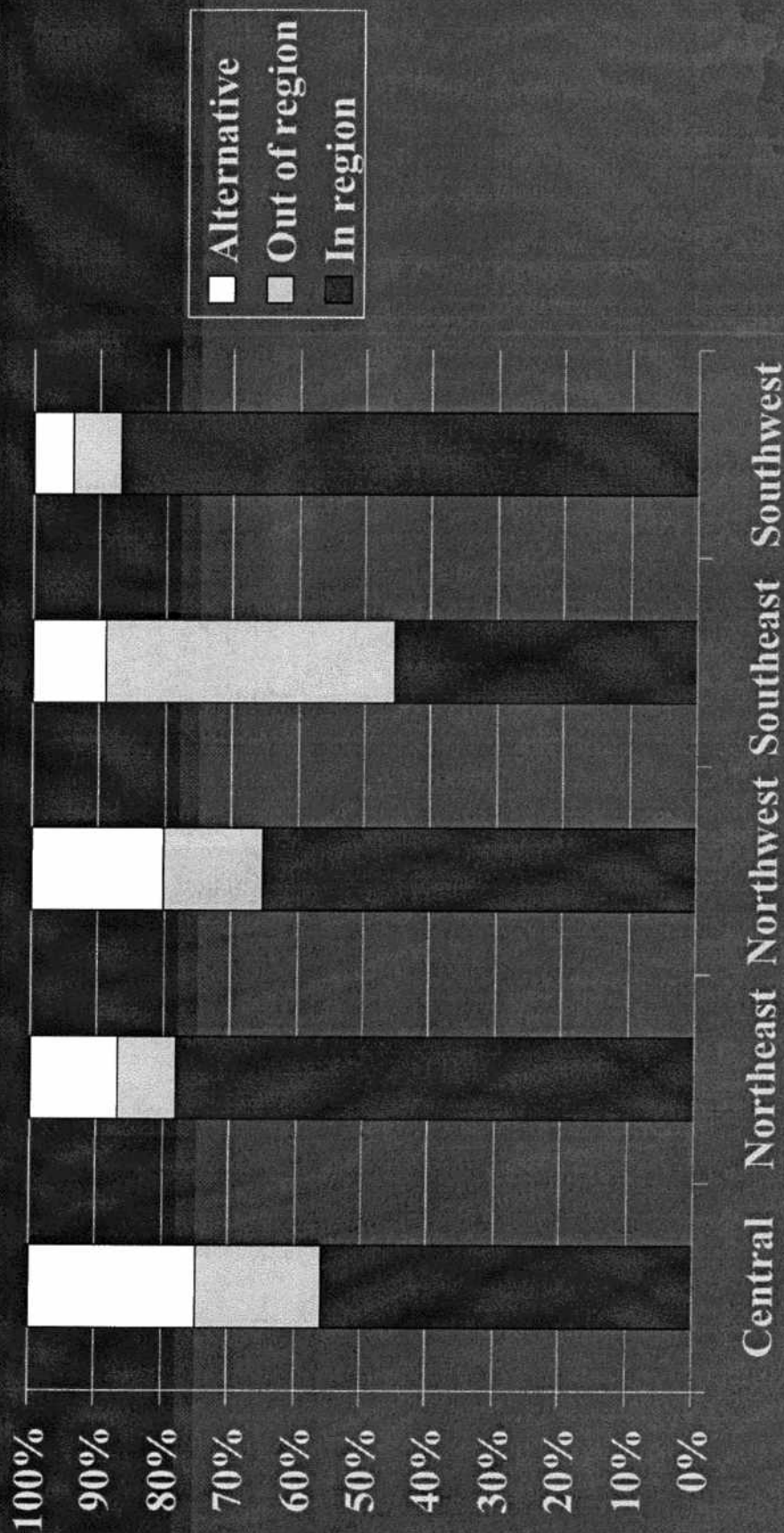
Middle School Applications

- ◆ Applications for middle grades decreased by 191
 - 2,400 6th grade applications received, a decrease of 227
 - 328 applications for transfers to other schools, a 7.2% increase from last year
- ◆ Proportion of all middle school applications for transfers also increased, from 10.2% to 11.7%
- ◆ Applications for 6th grade decreased in all regions
 - Largest decreases in Northeast and Northwest

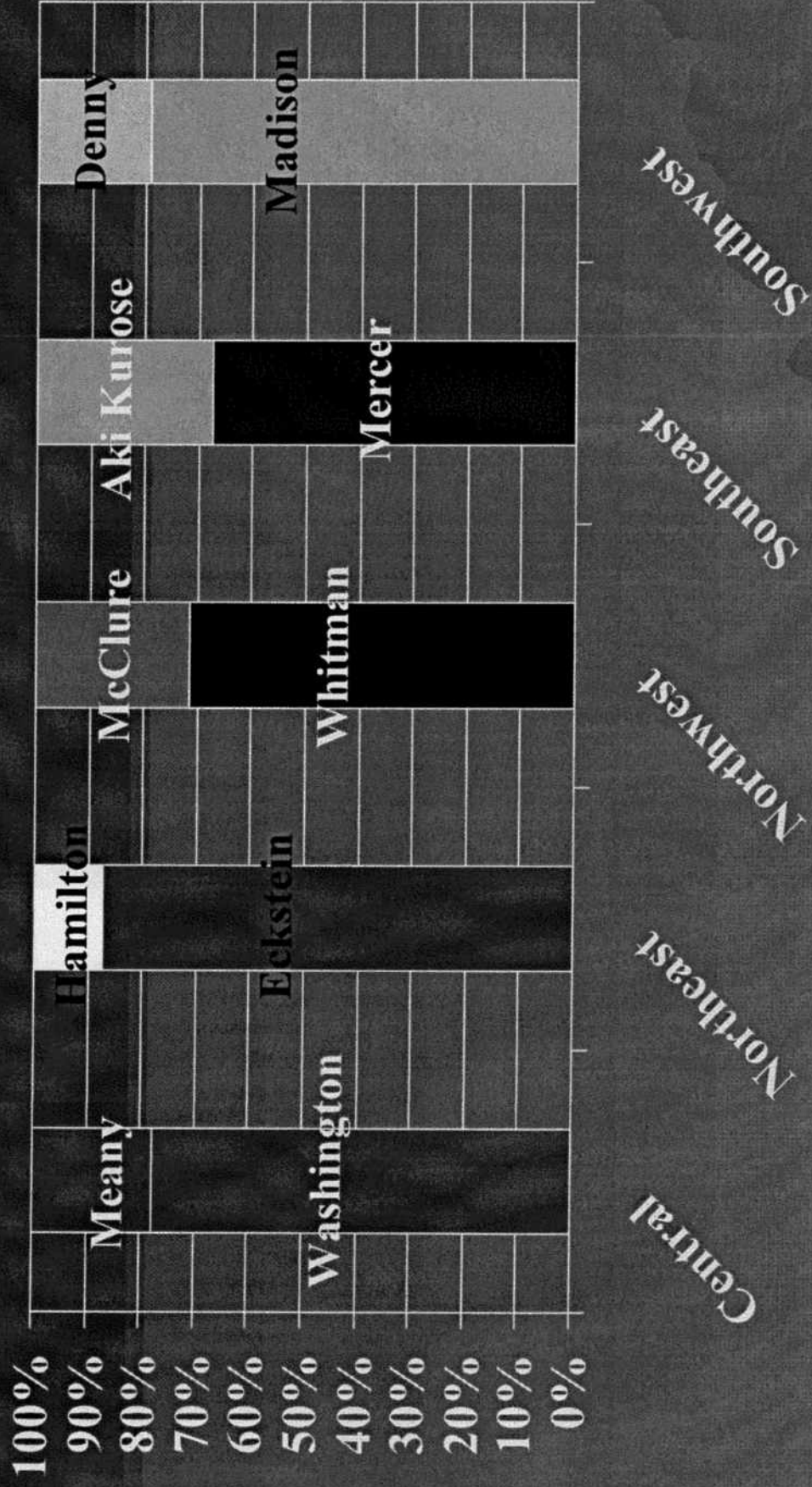
Middle School Choice Patterns

- ◆ About two-thirds (67%) of 6th graders chose a school in their home region; this proportion ranged from 46% in the Southeast region to 87% in the Southwest region
- ◆ The proportion of 6th graders choosing an in-region school increased in the Central and Southwest regions, and decreased in the Northeast, Northwest, and Southeast regions
- ◆ Alternative school first choices decreased overall from 16% to 14%
 - Proportions decreased in the Central and Southwest regions; they remained about the same in the Northeast, Northwest, and Southeast regions
- ◆ The number and proportion of first choices to Salmon Bay and TOPS decreased from last year

Middle School Choice Region Resident Patterns 2005-2006



2005-2006 Middle School In-Region School Choices



Middle School Assignment Results

- ◆ Overall, middle school first and second choice assignments increased from 89.4% to 93.3%
 - Fewer choices at Eckstein and Washington
- ◆ More than 50% decrease in the number of wait-listed students, from 629 last year to 316 this year
- ◆ Mandatory assignments decreased from 4.2% to 1.3% (126 to 37)

Middle School Waiting Lists

- ◆ All 6th grade waiting lists are smaller than last year
 - Fewer applications and new waiting list choice policy helped keep waiting lists small
- ◆ Salmon Bay has the largest waiting list, followed by TOPS; Eckstein had the largest waiting list last year
- ◆ More than half of the waiting lists are at alternative schools

School	Waitlist		School	Waitlist	
	2004	2005		2004	2005
Eckstein	187	48	Madison	43	23
Salmon Bay	145	91	Whitman	20	11
Washington	106	59			
TOPS	106	78			

High School Choices and Assignments

High School Applications

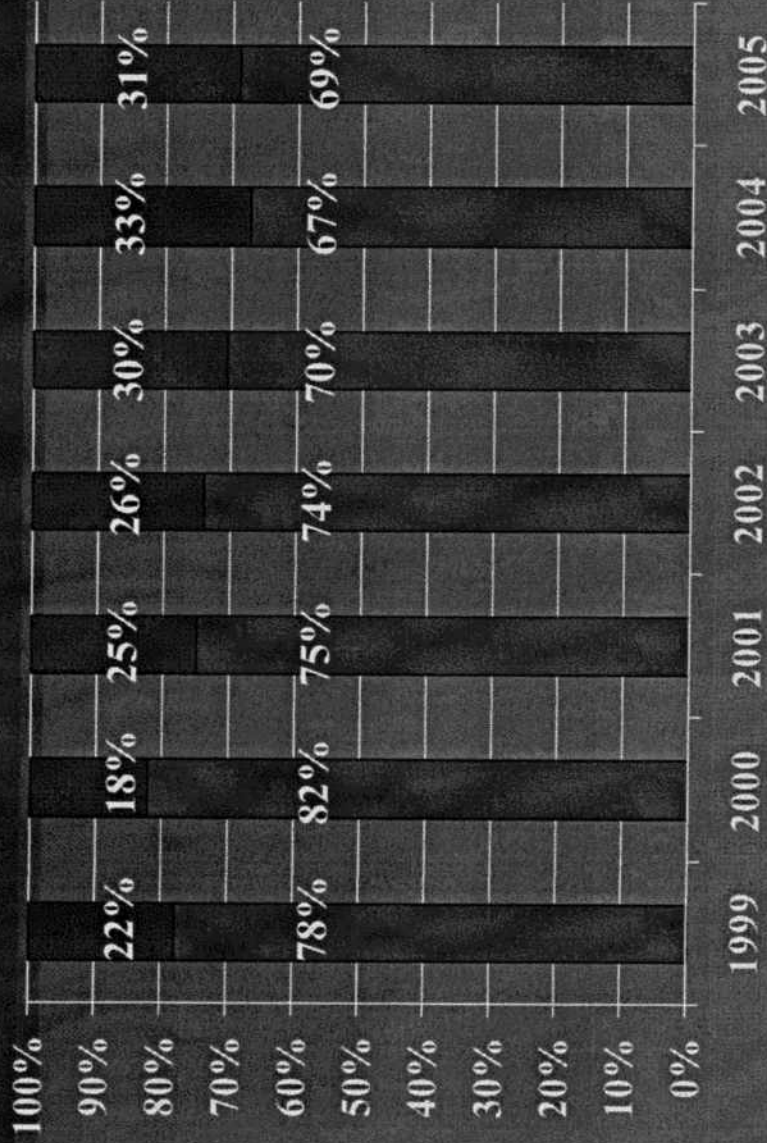
- ◆ Applications for high school grades increased by 70
 - 2964 9th grade applications received - down by 31
 - 30% (109) increase in applications to transfer schools – from 392 to 501
- ◆ Application trends
 - Relatively stable
 - ◆ Small increases in the Northwest and Central clusters
 - ◆ Relatively little change elsewhere

High School Choice Patterns

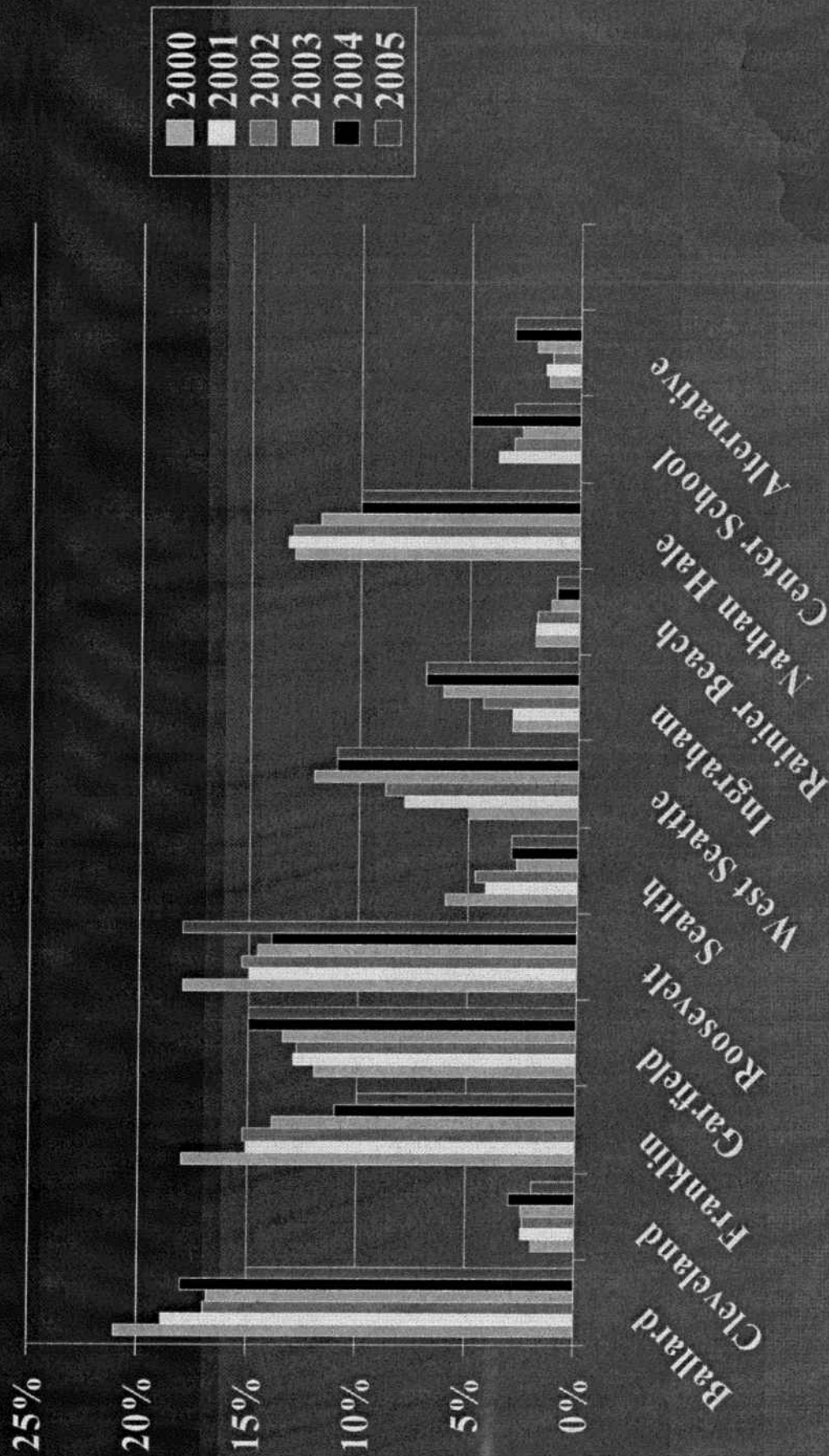
- ◆ Historically 5 schools (Ballard, Garfield, Franklin, Nathan Hale and Roosevelt) received the highest percentage of high school choices; West Seattle replaced Nathan Hale in the historic “Big 5”
- ◆ The variance of first choices among the high schools increased versus a decrease last year. This means more students are concentrating their choices at a few schools.
- ◆ Roosevelt had a 30% (133) increase in choices while Ballard had a 20% (103); Cleveland and The Center school each had a 50% decrease.
- ◆ Choices to Nova had a 40% (21) increase from last year.

Concentration of 9th Grade First Choices

Combined first choices in green for: Ballard, Franklin, Garfield, Roosevelt, Nathan Hale.



Historical High School 9th Grade First Choices



High School Assignment Results

- ◆ Overall assignments to 1st and 2nd choice high schools increased from 89.7% to 95.8%.
- ◆ Decrease in 1st choices to Ballard and Center School and the increase in capacity (as compared to last year) at most high schools were the contributing factors.
- ◆ Large decrease in the number and percentage of 9th grade mandatory assignments – from 3.6% (108) to .6% (17); all mandatory assignments were for students in the South and Southeast clusters.
- ◆ The distance of the draw area for all schools increased from last year (in miles). Ballard (2.28 to 5.85), Garfield (2.67 to 3.46), Nathan Hale (4.78 to 14.68), Center School (3.14 to 7.21).

High School Waitlists

School	Waitlist			Waitlist		
	2003	2004	2005	School	2003	2004 2005
Ballard	111	145	28	Franklin	54	21 0
Garfield	116	199	150	W. Seattle	46	41 5
Nathan Hale	92	18	0	Center	3	71 12
Roosevelt	64	59	105	Nova		9

Discussion

Parent Concerns

- ◆ Some siblings were not assigned to the same school (alternative programs and non-entering grades only).
- ◆ Some elementary students choosing a reference area school did not get in.
- ◆ Some students did not receive an assignment to their closest middle school.
- ◆ Some students wanted to apply for specialty classes in schools.
- ◆ Some students were not assigned to a nearby alternative school.
- ◆ Some students were assigned to a school that was not selected.

Mandatory Assignments

- ◆ Kindergarten (91)
 - 36 Minority
 - ◆ 6 in John Rogers reference area, the rest scattered
 - 55 White
 - ◆ 9 in Bryant, 9 in Rogers, 6 in Stevens, the rest scattered
- ◆ 6th Grade (22)
 - 13 Minority
 - ◆ 3 in Van Asselt
 - 9 White; no concentration
 - Most choices to Eckstein, TOPS, and Salmon Bay (few to Washington and Madison), no matter where the students lived
- ◆ 9th Grade (17)
 - 17 Minority students all in the South/Southeast
 - All choices were to Ballard, Roosevelt, Garfield, and the Center School

Non-First Choices

- ◆ District
 - 13.6% Minority; 15.7% White
- ◆ Kindergarten
 - Minority 14.5%; White 23.7%
 - Difference comes mostly from white students in the South and Southeast trying to choose out of the cluster
 - white students in the North tend to choose very popular alternative programs
- ◆ 6th Grade
 - Minority 12.2%; White 14.6%
- ◆ 9th Grade
 - Minority 13.8%; White 6.7%
 - Minority students in the South and Southeast choosing Garfield and north end schools