

PATTERN'S PROGRESS

MAY 2013

DEMOGRAPHICS AND EDUCATION

A discussion brief released this week by Pattern describes a crisis of declining enrollments in schools throughout the Hudson Valley on a district-by-district basis through the end of this decade.

In the report, Pattern examines future enrollment projections for 114 public school districts in Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester.

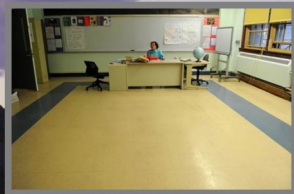
In 94 of the districts (82%), projections show enrollments that are either flat or declining. Of the declining districts, half are predicted to shrink by 10% and more from their peak enrollments over the past 20 years.

The report, **now posted to www.patten-for-progress.org** is a follow-up on the Pattern for Progress 2012 report "Closed Schools, Open Minds" and takes the story of closing schools to the district level and also examines the growing costs of education despite low enrollments.

"The report clearly points to a need to seek new and different ways to deliver public education," said Pattern's Jonathan Drapkin.

THE EMPTY CLASSROOM SYNDROME

A Discussion Brief on the State of School Enrollment Projections in the Hudson Valley



May 2013

HUDSON VALLEY
PATTERN FOR PROGRESS

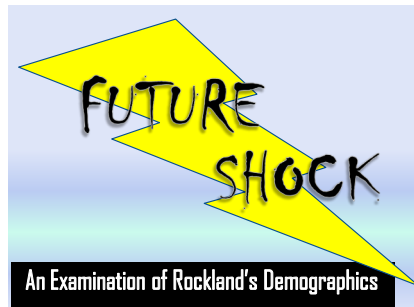
Improving Hudson Valley Quality of Life Through Regional Solutions Since 1965

Among other trends, the report points to a rise in the cost of education in NYS due to falling enrollments but rising state aid.

FUTURE SHOCK: Aging Demographic Series Continues

Pattern's Joe Czajka and Jonathan Drapkin took their demographic wake up call on the road this month with a presentation called "Future Shock" for the Rockland Business Association.

The presentation marked the third time in the past three months that Pattern has demonstrated how governments, businesses and educational organizations all need to come to terms with the idea that single biggest growing sector of the population throughout the region and parts of the state will occur in the 65+ age range.



Market Analysis for a Changing Valley



Center for Housing Solutions Executive Director Joe Czajka has been out and about this spring presenting demographics and market analysis to audiences in the Hudson Valley.

Earlier this month, Czajka presented his analysis of the aging populations demographic shift to the Northern Dutchess Alliance in Dutchess County. In a presentation tailored to Orange County and also emphasizing the growth in the 65+ age category, Joe made the demo-case for adjusting strategies to the Rural Preservation Corporation peer-to-peer training program. On May 21, he will travel to the Westchester for an informational and training session with the Neighborhood Preservation Corporation.

For more information on the Center for Housing Solutions please contact Joe at JCzajka@pfprogress.org

Save the Date: JUNE 17 A Special Pattern for Progress Event



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FELLOWS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATION

Sponsored by Ulster Savings Bank and The Chazen Companies
\$35 per person, \$25 for Pattern Fellow Alumni.
Please email rdegroat@pfprogress.org or call 845-565-4900.

Welcome New Members:

Judelson, Giordano & Siegel, accounting and business advising, Middletown, NY

S. Finkle Associates, grants, planning and economic development, in Kingston, NY.

In Other Members News:

Congratulations to **the Chazen Companies**, engineering, land surveying, planning, and landscape architecture, on relocating its North Country office in Queensbury to a larger location due to recent and projected growth. Chazen's main office is located in Poughkeepsie.

The Chazen Companies also recently announced that it has become an employee-owned firm by implementing an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) for the benefit of its employees.