

Looking At The ISSUES

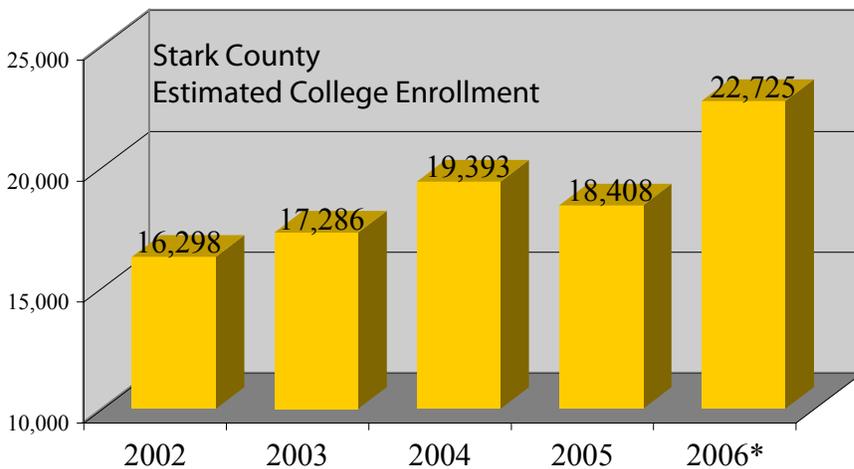
October 12, 2007

A New Era for Stark College Enrollment

For the first time in history, more Stark County residents are enrolled in college or graduate school than in high school. Further, that college enrollment appears to have increased by 39% over 2002 when Stark community leaders formed Ohio's first P-16 (preschool through college) Compact.

That's the estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey (ACS) released late in August this year. ACS is the annual survey of over three million households conducted by the Census Bureau. While subject to a margin of error, the survey was specifically designed to give communities like Stark a "fresh look at how they are changing..." Between the decennial census of 2000 and 2010, the data presents the best view for charting progress.

Enrollment trends are for all ages, not just for students recently graduating from high school.



*Estimated high school enrollment is: 21,615. ACS margin of error for college enrollment +/- 1,882.

In The News

Congratulations to Stark's Six Schools of Promise

Six Stark County schools have been identified as "Schools of Promise" by the Ohio Department of Education: Beach City Elementary (Fairless), Fairhope Elementary (Louisville), Genoa Elementary (Perry), Lexington Elementary (Marlington), and Smith and Whittier Elementaries (Massillon). To qualify, all student groups must meet or exceed state standards in reading or math, despite a poverty rate of more than 40%. Four of the Stark schools made the list for the first time, but special notice should be given to the achievement of Genoa Elementary which is one of only seventeen schools in the entire state earning this distinction for four or more years.

Looking At The Week

Dr. Adrienne O'Neill attended The Ohio 8's *Summit on Urban Education: Investing in Our Children* in Columbus on October 11th-12th.