

Largest Growth in JISD History

The fall of 2007 brought more new students to Jarrell ISD than at any other time in the district's history, more than doubling the prior record. The district gained 131 students from May 2007 to September 28, an overall gain of 17%. The elementary school grew a full 26%, while the middle school grew 18% and the high school 9%.

The district anticipated the growth and prepared for the new students in variety of ways. First and foremost, we built opened the new Jarrell High School (See related article). We added twenty-two new staff positions this year which included teachers, teacher aides, cafeteria, custodial and maintenance workers, bus drivers, a curriculum director, a librarian, and an elementary principal. For many years at Jarrell Elementary, we had three teachers per grade level. This year we expanded to four teachers at kinder, 1st, 2nd, and 4th grades to allow us to keep class sizes small. To get the students to and from school, the district purchased new buses and added three new bus routes since last year.

The middle school added teachers in the core subjects and several new elective courses, including video technology production, teen leadership, and introduction to agriculture. The high school, where the freshman class doubled in size, added positions in business, foreign language, tutorials and special education.

The overall effect of the new students, teachers and courses is that all the rooms at the middle and the elementary schools are in use. There are no vacant spaces. The spaces left by the high school staff were immediately filled with personnel to educate the large number of new students in the Jarrell ISD.

A committee is being formed to consider the space and facilities needs at Jarrell ISD. If you are interested in being part of the committee, please contact Jamie Mattison, Superintendent, or any of the school board members.