

**Class Size**

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) recognizes that in addition to appropriate curriculum which challenges the abilities of all students, teaching techniques, staff utilization, and class size all contribute to effective student learning. Student-centered learning activities and a high degree of individualized attention to each student are high priorities in the Bethany Public School District. In attempting to provide an environment which limits obstacles and enhances opportunities for all students to succeed and quality professional performance, the following class size guidelines are recommended.

Pre-Kindergarten (Special Education)	8 students to 1 teacher (with paraprofessional(s) as needed)
Kindergarten	14 students to 1 teacher
Grades 1 – 3	16 students to 1 teacher
Grades 4 – 6	18 students to 1 teacher

The foregoing shall be subject to modification in the following circumstances:

1. Specialized classes (remedial, enrichment, special education, etc.)
2. Large group instruction (assemblies, special programs, etc.)
3. Team teaching (grade level activities, interdistrict activities, etc.)
4. Experimental programs (pilot programs, etc.)
5. Special needs students/students with disabilities integrated into general classes (in which cases, a student who requires intensive educational services may be counted as two (2), three (3), or four (4) times the typical student when determining class size. The “weighting” factor will be determined by the Planning and Placement Team and noted in the student’s mandated Individual Educational Plan.

In general, a twenty percent (20%) positive or negative variance to the recommended class size shall be considered acceptable. At least annually, and prior to budget development, the Superintendent and the Board shall examine and discuss current and projected enrollments, and shall establish staffing parameters as recommended by the assessment of desired class size. Preferred class sizes shall be established and/or reaffirmed.

The above guidelines should not restrict larger or smaller groupings of students when the nature of the material and delivery warrant no such action.

In addition, the maximum enrollment shall not exceed the available individual space and/or equipment. Safety requirements superseded the above guidelines.

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