

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP

PROGRAM
2312/Page 1 of 3
Class Size

2312 CLASS SIZE

The Mount Olive Township Board of Education believes that class size influences the quality of instruction. In establishing class sizes, the Superintendent will take into consideration such factors as student needs, curriculum requirements, types of instructional setting, district finances, and space or equipment limitations.

Each principal, working under the supervision of the Superintendent of Schools, shall be responsible for the assignment of classes of all pupils, in his/her school. In determining the number of pupils to be placed in individual classes the principal shall, among other things, be guided by such basic considerations as the following:

1. The educational purposes or goals to be achieved in each class.
2. The total number of pupils in grade or subject to be assigned to a class or classes.
3. The number and adequacy of classrooms and other suitable areas which are available to be used for purposes of instruction.
4. The number of teachers available to instruct the class or classes.

Guide for Use in Determining Class Size

The following guide shall be used by the administration for determining homeroom sections in grades kindergarten through fifth and subject sections for grades six through twelve. Different approaches are outlined for different grade levels. If, in the judgment of the Superintendent, there are educational factors which require deviation from this set of guidelines, an appropriate recommendation shall be made to the Board of Education.



POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP

PROGRAM
2312/Page 2 of 3
Class Size

A. Elementary - Grades Kindergarten Through Five

1. For grades kindergarten through five the desired range for class size is 18-25. The suggested minimum is 14 and the suggested maximum is 27.
2. For grades kindergarten through two, when the determination is between a single section and two sections, the suggested maximum shall be 25. (Note: Administrative Code 6:26-2.4 requires that kindergarten classes not exceed 25 pupils per teacher except by permission of the County Superintendent of Schools.
3. When the desired range (25) is exceeded in grades kindergarten through two, a teaching assistant may be employed for additional support.
4. The number of homeroom sections for grades kindergarten through five will be determined by April 15 of the preceding year and will be based on the projected enrollments as of that date. If the suggested maximum is exceeded prior to the start of the school year, an additional homeroom section may be created.

B. Middle School - Grades Six through Eight

	Desired Range	Suggested Minimum	Suggested Maximum
Grade 6	18-25	16	30
Grade 7 and 8 classes except as listed below	18-25	16	30
Foreign Languages	18-25	10	30
Industrial Arts	12-16	10	20
Home Economics	12-16	10	20
Music (vocal and instrumental)	Size to be determined on basis of number acceptable for performing music groups		
Physical Education	30-35	20	40
Special Education	Size to be determined by standards established by the New Jersey Department of Education		



POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP

PROGRAM
2312/Page 3 of 3
Class Size

C. High School - Grades Nine through Twelve

	Desired Range	Suggested Minimum	Suggested Maximum
All classes except as listed below	18-25	16	30
Art	14-18	10	20
Business Education	10-20	6	30
Cooperative Trades and Industry	10-20	6	20
Dramatic Arts	14-18	10	22
Foreign Languages	18-25	8	30
Home Economics	12-16	10	20
Industrial Arts	12-16	10	20
Music (vocal and instrumental)	Size to be determined on basis of number acceptable for performing music groups		
Physical Education	30-35	20	40
Science (laboratory)	18-22	10	25
Speech	14-18	10	22
Special Education	Size to be determined by standards established by the New Jersey Department of Education		

To enable students to complete planned programs of study, the Board of Education recognizes the need to continue certain classes in a subject sequence at times when enrollment may, of necessity, be lower than the suggested minimum set forth in the guide above with Board approval.

N.J.A.C. 6:22-5.5

Adopted: 29 June 1998

