

INSTRUCTION

Science Education

The district endeavors to provide a high school science curriculum that offers students opportunities to engage in hands-on laboratory experiences as part of the basic coursework of the class.

Adequate space is needed in laboratory classrooms to ensure students can safely conduct experiments and handle chemicals and materials that are part of a laboratory experience.

Science classes that conduct labs using chemicals or other potentially harmful materials will provide a minimum of 45 square feet per student, as research shows this ratio to be consistent with a significant reduction in accidents in high school science labs.

High school science classrooms shall be staffed, and students assigned to classrooms, in the following manner: The number of square feet in the classroom divided by 45 will determine the maximum number of students that may be assigned to any period in the classroom. Examples are shown on the table below:

Size of Room in Square Feet	Square Footage per Student	Maximum # of Students
1200	45	26.7
1300	45	28.9
1400	45	31.1

Exceptions to these limits can only be made with an agreed upon written strategy between the teacher and administrator that describes how other safety strategies will be implemented to ensure that the safety of all the students will be protected. In addition, all exceptions must be approved by the director of secondary education.

Adopted: October 24, 2018

Amended: June 21, 2023