

Stafford Township Board of Education Policy

PROGRAM
2312
Class Size

2312 CLASS SIZE

The Stafford Township Board Of Education believes that the most important element in the teaching/learning process is teacher/student interaction. The Board further believes that class size has a bearing on student achievement and on the flexibility of the teacher.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to work with the elementary Principals to establish class sizes that are fiscally and educationally sound and that fall within the confines of applicable law. The Board also recognizes that the number of pupils assigned to any one class is governed by constraints of space and resources in addition to considerations of instructional quality.

The number of class sections/teachers per grade shall be reviewed annually by the administration at the time of budget preparation. A decision with respect to the number of sections/teachers per grade per school will be made by the Board at the regular meeting in July or before.

The Superintendent, after consultation with the Principals, shall establish administrative guidelines consistent with this policy which establish maximum and minimum class sizes deemed optimum for educational and instructional purposes. The Superintendent shall immediately inform the Board of Education if enrollment in any particular class falls outside such optimum limits.

The Superintendent shall prepare recommendations for class size in accordance with applicable law. Maximum limits shall take into account the subject matter, type of instruction, ability of pupils, availability of aides, and use of special facilities and equipment and may be waived to accommodate the demands of a temporary increase in enrollment.

The Board of Education believes that the maximum class size in the school district be maintained at the levels prescribed in this policy:

1. Grades kindergarten -
Maximum class size not to exceed twenty-five students per class.
2. Grades one, two and three -
Maximum class size not to exceed twenty-eight students per class.
3. Grades four, five and six -
Maximum class size not to exceed thirty students per class.

This policy only deals with maximum class size and the Board of Education will strive to have all regular elementary classes fall within this maximum number based on enrollment figures on the first day of school. If at any time class sizes are less than the above or exceed the maximum indicated, it

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is the responsibility of the Superintendent of schools to notify the Board of Education immediately to determine any possible action.

Possible action may include:

1. If the maximum number of students is reached at one school and there is a significant difference in enrollment at another school in the same grade, the students enrolling will be transferred to the other district school. All new enrollees will be subject to this intra-district transfer.
2. If enrollment reaches a maximum at all schools with the same grade levels the Superintendent will notify the Board of Education immediately to determine if classroom aides or another teacher will be hired.

The Superintendent shall be prepared to recommend to the Board what action to take when enrollments dictate additional school space requirements.

Adopted: 22 July 2004
Revised: 15 April 2010
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