

**Class Size Guidelines
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

Purpose:

The purpose of this Administrative Regulation is to establish guidelines for decision-making related to class size within Regional School District No. 17 (“the District”). Appropriate class size plays a crucial role in delivering quality education, fostering a positive learning environment, and meeting the diverse needs of our students.

Guiding Principles:

1. **Educational Quality:** The District acknowledges that maintaining manageable class sizes is essential to provide students with high-quality educational experiences.
2. **Individualized Instruction:** Smaller class sizes and small group instruction enable educators to provide more individualized attention and support, accommodating a range of learning styles and abilities.
3. **Safe and Supportive Environment:** Smaller class sizes contribute to the creation of safe and supportive learning environments that promote student engagement and active participation.
4. **Equity and Inclusion:** It is our commitment to ensure that class size guidelines are equitable and inclusive, addressing the unique needs of our diverse student population.

Guidelines:

a. Elementary

- i. **Pre-Kindergarten:** The target class size for Pre-Kindergarten in the District should be **12 to 14 students**. Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on the specific needs of students.
- ii. **Kindergarten/Grade 1:** The target class size for kindergarten and grade 1 in the District should be **18 to 20 students**. Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on grade levels and the specific needs of students.
- iii. **Grades 2 and 3:** The target class size for grades 2 and 3 in the District should be **19 to 21 students**. Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on grade levels and the specific needs of students.

- b. **Intermediate School:** The target class size for grades 4 and 5 in the District should be **20 to 22 students**. Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on teaming structures and the specific needs of students.
- c. **Middle School:** The target average class size for grades 6-8 in the District should be **21 to 24 students**. Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on teaming structures, subject matter, and instructional needs.
- d. **High School:** Class size limits for individual classes may vary depending on the number of sections, subject matter, and instructional needs. Science courses will not exceed 24 students.
- e. ***Specialized courses:** Specialized courses include, but are not limited to, the following: dual-enrollment courses, Beginning Spanish Conversations, science courses, shop/kitchen/studio, independent study, etc. Specialized courses may not follow the recommended ranges outlined below.

Implementation:

Scenario	Pre-Kinder	K-1	Grs. 2-3	Grs. 4-5	*Grs. 6-8	*Grs. 9-12
A	12	16-17	16-18	17-19	17-20	19-21
B	13-14	18-20	19-21	20-22	21-24	22-24
C	NA	21+	22+	23+	25+	25+

1. The District will allocate resources, including staffing and facilities, to maintain class sizes within the established guidelines as much as possible.
2. When class sizes exceed the Scenario B threshold, the principal will consider mitigation strategies such as hiring/reallocating staff or reconstituting the class make-up.
3. When class sizes meet or exceed the Scenario C threshold, the Superintendent along with the building principal will monitor these instances and take necessary steps to mitigate the issue, such as hiring additional staff, reconstituting the class make-up, or creating additional classes when appropriate.
4. While the District will make every effort to adhere to the class size standards, there may be instances where variations are necessary due to factors such as specific course enrollment, teaming structures, available space, student needs, and resource constraints. The Superintendent or designee may deviate from the guidelines based on these factors while ensuring that student learning is not compromised.

Monitoring and Reporting:

1. The Superintendent or designee will be responsible for regularly monitoring class sizes across all schools within the District.
2. The Superintendent shall report to the Board regarding class size determinations upon Board request.

Review and Revision:

This Administrative Regulation will be subject to periodic review and potential revision based on evolving educational needs, budgetary constraints, and best practices in education.

Communication:

The Administrative Regulation will be shared with the administration, as a resource and process to follow when making decisions regarding class size.

BOE Approved: June 18, 2024