

INSTRUCTION

Class Size

The Governing Board recognizes that the number of students in a class may affect the extent to which teachers can identify and respond to individual student needs.

In accordance with negotiated employee agreements and state law, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or designee, the Board shall establish upper and lower class size limits appropriate for the subject or grade level taught and conducive to the effective use of teaching staff.

(cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)

(cf. 6117 - Year-Round Schedules)

(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly submit reports that will enable the Board to evaluate the effectiveness of the class size reduction program and its impact on student achievement and on the attainment of the district's goals. These reports shall also include an analysis of the impact of class size reduction on staffing and school facilities needs.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Class Size Reduction in Grades K-3

The Board believes that small class size is beneficial to students in the primary grades as they acquire the basic skills that serve as the foundation for their subsequent learning. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that classes in designated primary grades designated by the Board are reduced to 20 or fewer students per teacher in accordance with the law.

Full-time mainstreamed special education students shall be included in determining class size for purposes of the class size reduction program.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

In accordance with law, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the teachers of classes in the class size reduction program receive training designed to help them to maximize the educational advantages of class size reduction.

If it becomes necessary to consider reducing or eliminating certain grade levels or schools from participation in the class size reduction program, the Superintendent or designee shall prepare a report analyzing the potential impact on the program's elimination, including the effects on the district's budget, transportation, facilities, staffing and collective bargaining agreement, as well as the potential impact on student achievement and learning. He/she shall present recommendations to the Board in accordance with the priorities specified in law.

(cf. 4131 Staff Development)

Class Size Reduction in Grades 9-12

The Board desires to participate in class size reduction to provide an average class size of no more than 20 students in courses that count toward completion of graduation requirements in English, mathematics, science or social studies.

In accordance with law, priority shall be given to reducing class size in English courses in grade 9. If funding is available, the Superintendent or designee shall recommend other ninth grade courses from the subjects listed above from which reduced class sizes are likely to provide the greatest impact on student learning.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17042 Rules for determining area of adequate school construction; exceptions

17042.7 Formula for calculation

33050 Nonwaivable provisions

35160 Authority of the board

41375 Legislative intent encouraging reduction in class size

41376 Minimum class size standards

41378 Apportionments and allowances, kindergarten classes

42280 Necessary small schools

46205 Computation for early-late programs

51225.3 Graduation requirements

52120-52128 Class Size Reduction Program

52080-52090 Morgan-Hart Class Size Reduction Act of 1989

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15103 Definitions

15130-15133 Class size reduction program K-3

15140-15141 Class size reduction in two courses in grade 9

Management Resources:

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

Frequently asked questions, K-3 Class Size Reduction Program revised July, 2005

WEB SITES

CDE: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/cs/class_size_reduction

Policy adopted: 11/12/85

Policy revised: 7/23/02; 12/05; 2/14/06