Adopted: ___*May 2026*___

*Revised:*_____

656 CLASS SIZE POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The School Board is committed to providing a high quality education to all of the students in the school district. The School Board recognizes a relationship between class size and the quality of instruction teachers of the district are able to provide.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

In an effort to provide the highest possible quality of instruction within the district, the School Board directs the administration to establish reasonable and equitable class enrollments for each teacher using the general class size goals listed below.

The School Board also recognizes that there will occasionally be circumstances in which the district will not be able to comply with the general goals. Financial constraints, space or other physical constraints, instructional demands, legislative requirements (including open enrollment provisions), and other issues may limit the School Board's ability to respond to changing student population patterns. In addition, the School Board recognizes that there are valid educational reasons for having larger or smaller than normal class enrollments.

III. GUIDELINES

A. Factors to be Considered.

In determining the size of various classes, the administration should consider the following factors:

1. The capacity of teaching facilities, i.e. the number of teaching stations.
2. Required preparation and correction time.
3. The appropriateness of the room to the content of the course and the methods of instruction to be used.
4. The instructional assignment which will help the teacher be most effective with the students in the class.

B. Acceptable Ranges of Class sizes

1. Kindergarten should fall within the range of 18-23 students
2. Grades 1 and 2 should fall within the range of 20-25 students.
3. Grades 3 and 4 should fall within the range of 22-27 students.
4. Grades 5 and 6 should fall within the range of 24-29 students.
5. Grades 7 and 8 should have classes no larger than 32 students per class period and no smaller than 15 students per class period.
6. Grades 9-12 should have classes no larger than 34 students per class period and no smaller than 15 students per class period.

C. Exceptions for Educationally Valid Reasons

Building principals, after consultation with course instructors and the superintendent of schools, will establish enrollment limits for courses which would be unreasonably constrained by the normal class enrollments listed above. Such courses might include, but not necessarily be limited to, band, choir, physical education, advanced placement courses, or other higher level/capstone courses.

D. Exceptions for Financial Reasons

The School Board understands that maintaining the targeted class size goals requires a significant financial commitment. Because of financial constraints, it may not always be able to meet the class size goals outlined above.

It is a priority of the HLWW School District to maintain the class size range goals listed in this policy. If the targeted range cannot be met, it is the intent of the School Board to limit the excess enrollment no more than twenty percent (20%) beyond the identified range until all other budget areas have been critically evaluated and prioritized.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Building principals will provide the School Board with a class size update at the beginning of each school year, including the class enrollment assigned to each teacher. An updated class size report will be provided to the School Board following the conclusion of first quarter.

When it becomes known that a class fails to meet the parameters, the administration should determine if a different configuration of classes is plausible, if additional personnel are necessary, or if courses should be dropped. The School Board will be notified of any recommended changes in curriculum or personnel as a result of class size considerations.