

Instruction**CLASS SIZE**

The Governing Board recognizes that smaller classes may contribute to student learning by allowing teachers to better identify and respond to individual student needs. The Governing Board further recognizes that educational excellence requires balancing many priorities, including recruiting and retaining exceptional employees, providing instructional resources, maintaining safe and modern facilities, supporting student wellness, and exercising responsible stewardship of public funds. In accordance with negotiated employee agreements and state law, the Governing Board has established class size limits appropriate for each grade level or subject taught and conducive to the effective use of teaching staff. The Governing Board reaffirms its commitment to fulfilling all collective bargaining obligations required under the Educational Employment Relations Act (EERA), and acknowledges that employee organizations have a vital role in helping to prioritize how to spend the District's limited funds.

Grades TK-3

For grades K-3, the District should not exceed 26:1 ratio of students to teacher and are endeavoring to progress to 24:1 students to teacher, unless an alternative annual average class size for each school site is collectively bargained. Transitional kindergarten classes established pursuant to Education Code 48000 shall be included in the calculation of average class enrollment for kindergarten. (*Education Code 42238.02; 5 CCR 15498-15498.3*)

Grades 4-8

To comply with California Education Code sections 41376 and 41378, the District will prioritize achieving, to the extent feasible, an average class size of 29.9:1—the statewide average student-to-teacher ratio established on October 30, 1964, as the benchmark for grades 4–8—while recognizing that implementation is subject to fiscal resources, enrollment, staffing, and other operational considerations. Additional priorities shall be established in accordance with the goals and strategies identified in the District's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

(*Education Code 41376 and 41378*)

Special Education

For students who require special education and related services, the ratio of students to instructional adults in group services shall be dependent on the needs of the students. However, for children ages 3-5 years who are placed in group services, the child-adult ratio shall be less than 8:1 and the child-teacher ratio shall be less than 24:1. For children ages 3-5 years who are identified as severely disabled, the ratio of children to instructional adults shall not exceed 5:1.

(*Education Code 8264.8, 56441.5*)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with an analysis of staffing and school facilities needs and other costs related to class size reduction proposals.

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The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board regarding the impact of the class size reduction program on budget, student achievement, and other outcomes such as changes in school climate and student engagement.