

MIDDLETON-CROSS PLAINS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Policy and Procedure Manual

343.2

CLASS SIZE

Policy

Class size will vary from grade to grade and building to building as a result of identified student needs, changing populations and available space. It is the intent of the District to keep class sizes as small as the population, available space and financial resources permit.

The Superintendent, in consultation with the building principals, will consider such factors as the following when determining class sizes for individual buildings:

- a. the ages of students being assigned to the class;
- b. the degree of dependence or independence of students being assigned;
- c. the nature of the course or class content, as well as activities to be conducted (i.e. chorus or band may require larger class size);
- d. class or course groupings for instruction (homogeneous versus heterogeneous grouping patterns);
- e. the number of special needs or at risk students to be involved;
- f. the faculty and its limitations; and,
- g. transportation concerns or problems.

The Superintendent or designee may assign students from a building with large class enrollments to another building with smaller class enrollments.

Procedure

It is the intent of the Board of Education and administration, where feasible, to limit class size. The following class size ranges are recommended:

Kdg.-Grade 1:	17-25
Grades 2-3:	20-26
Grades 4-5:	22-29

It is recognized that class size may increase beyond desirable numbers with little notice. Therefore, in order to be able to respond in a timely manner, the following alternatives will be considered and an action plan formulated when the grade level enrollment is within one student of the recommended maximum number. The action plan will be implemented when the number of students enrolled in the grade level exceeds the recommended numbers. Faculty requirements, staffing levels, class characteristics and budget considerations are factors influencing the decision and planning process. Alternatives to be considered, not necessarily in priority order, are:

- Add intern or additional teacher time;
- Add Education Assistants (the hours depends on class make-up);
- Transfer students to another school on an optional or non-optional basis;

- Hire an additional teacher;
- Create a combination or multi-age class;
- Consider other creative solutions as appropriate to the situation.

Principals will utilize teaching staff input in formulating recommendations to the Superintendent. Staff and parents/guardians will be advised when any of the above alternatives are implemented. Exceptions to the recommended class size ranges or action plan may occur due to the type of class, such as reading, students with disabilities or physical education.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.001 Wisconsin Statutes
118.24(2)
120.13

CROSS REF.: 310, Philosophy of Educational Programs, Instruction and Materials
320, Organization of Students for Instruction (Grade Configurations of Schools)
411, Equal Educational Opportunities
420, School Admissions
422, Admission of Nonresident Students (Other Than Open Enrollment Students)
423, Public School Open Enrollment Students
424, Participation of Non-Public School Students in District Programs/Activities
433, Assignment of Students to Schools (including Intradistrict Transfers)
533, Staff Employment
MEA Agreement

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