

DASD Guiding Principles for Class Size

The Board of Education believes that many factors must be given consideration in the establishment of class size. All efforts will be made to maintain class sizes to advance outcomes for students through educationally sound practices and to provide a healthy, safe and secure school environment.

Class Size Principles

- Principals will maintain balanced classes factoring in academic and behavioral needs and services.
- Principals have the flexibility to assign staffing based on the overall needs of the school.
- The number of teachers in the overall district is sustainable given current fiscal climate.
- Examine staffing when the average class size for an elementary school is over 22.5. Efforts will be made to maintain the lowest class sizes at kindergarten and primary grades.
- Elementary students will attend their home school unless administrative approval has been given.
- Examine staffing when the average class size for the middle and high schools is over 25. Class sizes should be lower than the school average for lab classes.

The following considerations will be used in making decisions:

- Current and projected enrollment monitored in an ongoing basis
- District-wide priorities
- Number of open enrollment and boundary exception requests
- Early Childhood program impact
- Anticipated students withdrawing and entering the system
- Variety of student needs in the school/grade/classroom
- Staffing considerations (retirements, resignations, transfers, etc.)
- Space and facilities
- Impact on specials (art, music, PE, etc.)
- District needs and initiatives
- Timing
- Impacts to students, families, and staff

*Established by the Board of Education:
October 13, 2014*