

CVUSD

Board Policy

BP 6151

Instruction

Class Size

***Note: AB 97 (Ch. 47, Statutes of 2013) eliminated the Class Size Reduction program for grades K-3 (Education Code 52120-52128) and the Morgan-Hart Class Size Reduction program for grades 9-12 (Education Code 52080-52090) and redirected the funding for both programs into the local control funding formula (LCFF). ***

****Note: In place of the K-3 Class Size Reduction program, AB 97 added Education Code 42238.02 which created what is now referred to as the K-3 Grade Span Adjustment (GSA) program. The GSA program requires districts, as a condition of receiving an additional adjustment to the K-3 base grant under the LCFF, to make progress toward maintaining an average class size of 24 students in those grades and achieve that level by the time the LCFF is fully implemented (estimated by the Department of Finance to be the 2020-21 fiscal year). An exception exists for districts that have negotiated a different ratio for each school site. Pursuant to Education Code 42238.02, the average class enrollment requirement cannot be waived by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. ***

****Note: Districts that choose to reduce class size in any of grades 4-12 may do so at their discretion and may establish priorities for smaller class size aligned with the goals in their local control and accountability plan developed pursuant to Education Code 52060-52077, as added by AB 97. ***

The Governing Board recognizes that smaller classes may contribute to student learning by allowing teachers to better identify and respond to individual student needs. In accordance with negotiated employee agreements and state law, the Board shall establish class size limits appropriate for each grade level or subject taught and conducive to the effective use of teaching staff.

The highest priority for maintaining small class sizes shall be in the primary grades in order to support young students as they acquire the basic skills that serve as the foundation for subsequent learning. Other priorities shall be established in accordance with the goals and strategies identified in the district's local control and accountability plan (LCAP).

For grades K-3, the district shall annually make progress toward maintaining an average class of not more than 24 students, unless an alternative annual average class size for each school site is collectively bargained. (Education Code 42238.02; 5 CCR 15498-15498.3)

Transitional kindergarten classes established pursuant to Education Code 48000 shall be included in the calculation of average class enrollment for kindergarten.

At the secondary level, district priorities for class size reduction may focus on English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and other courses that are necessary for completion of graduation requirements and shall be aligned with student needs as identified in the district's LCAP.

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.

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

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

42238.02 Local control funding formula, including adjustment for class size reduction

42280 Necessary small schools

46205 Computation for early-late programs

51225.3 Graduation requirements

52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>