

Greater Albany SD 8J
Board Policy

Code: **IHB**
Adopted: 1/13/92
Revised/Readopted: 3/12/01
Orig. Code(s): BP 6103

Class Size

The Board recognizes class size to be a factor in the success of the educational program in the district. It is the policy of the district to staff all classes in a manner which is consistent with effective instruction.

Favorable class sizes (numbers of students per teacher in each class) are especially important in grades K-2. The Board recognizes that factors outside of district control may limit the ability of the district to attain this ideal; therefore, it establishes a goal of no more than 25 student per class when possible for these grades.

The Board recognizes that a number of factors affect the size of classes in the district. These factors include the function and grade level of the class, the capacity of the facility, the methods of instruction and the availability of equipment and support staff. Class size decisions are based on the recommendation of the principals and contingent upon budget parameters.

Some options for solving overcrowded classes include hiring additional teachers, transferring students or teachers, making boundary changes, splitting classes, providing more support staff and hiring substitutes for additional preparation time for teachers. Also, when possible, the district should provide training for teachers to aid them in adjusting instructional materials and method to the size of their classes.

The Board recognizes that teachers should be involved in school decisions concerning staff allocations and class sizes. The principal of each school will establish a means for the teaching staff to be involved in these decisions. This process will be in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement.

Teachers that recognize class overload problems may appeal for intervention to resolve the problem following the process outlined in the collective bargaining agreement.

The Board instructs the superintendent to report regularly on building enrollment patterns, including class sizes, teacher and building concerns, appeals and potential solutions to class size problems.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 243.650

OAR 581-022-1630

Tualatin Valley Bargaining Council v. Tigard School District 23J, Case No. UP-42-89, 11 PECBR 590 (1989); motion to stay denied, 11 PECBR 777 (1989); aff'd, 106 Or. App. 381 (1991); review allowed, 312 Or. 16 (1991); rev'd and remanded, 314 Or. 274 (1992); order on remand 14 PECBR 321 (1993); aff'd, 128 Or. App. 59 (1994); review denied, 320 Or. 272 (1994).