

CLASS SIZE

The Oxford Township Board of Education recognizes that class size has a significant bearing upon learning. As the teacher to pupil ratio increases, instructional effectiveness becomes an area of concern for all those involved in the educational process.

Accordingly, the number of children in each class shall be determined by the board based on the recommendation of the chief school administrator. Such determination will depend on appropriate educational factors as well as the availability of space and the financial ability of the school district.

The chief school administrator shall recommend for board approval the number of class sections for each course or grade level. He/she shall take into consideration such factors as student needs, curriculum requirements, types of instructional setting, district finances and space or equipment limitations. While permitted levels will be determined as noted, the board of education will make every effort to consider class size as follows (particular attention shall be paid to space-per-pupil requirements of the state department of education):

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Desired Grouping</u>
<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>Optimum 14 – 16</i> <i>Maximum 20 – 22</i>
<i>Grades 1 – 2</i>	<i>Optimum 18 – 20</i> <i>Maximum 25</i>
<i>Grades 3 – 4</i>	<i>Optimum 20 – 22</i> <i>Maximum 25 – 29</i>
<i>Grades 5 – 8</i>	<i>Optimum 20 – 22</i> <i>Maximum 25 – 28</i>
<i>Special Education</i>	<i>As outlined by state law</i>

The board may, when average class size moves beyond the maximum number, approve teacher assistance through the use of additional certified teachers, approved aides, or approved volunteers. Attention will be paid to the space-per-pupil requirements of the state department of education. This policy does not preclude the board, upon the recommendation of the chief school administrator, from adjusting class size due to extenuating circumstances.

Date:

First Adoption: August 21, 1991

Review Date: May 18, 2008

Revision and Adoption: June 26, 2008

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:54-20	Powers of board (county vocational schools)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-2.1	Authority for educational goals and standards
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:10A et seq.	<i>Improving Standards-Driven Instruction and</i>

*Literacy**and Increasing Efficiency in Abbott School Districts*

See particularly

Appendix A

<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-4.7	Program criteria: special class programs, secondary and vocational rehabilitation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23-8.3	Commissioner to ensure achievement of the Core Curriculum Content Standards
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:26-2.1 et seq.	<u>Long-Range Facilities Plans</u>
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-8.2	School enrollment
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-8.3	School attendance

Possible

Cross References: 3240	Tuition income
5118	Nonresidents
5120	Assessment of individual needs
5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
6150	Instructional arrangements
6171.4	Special education
7110	Long-range facilities planning

Key Words

Class Size, Space-per-pupil Requirements