

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

No. 126

Section: Programs

Title: Class Size

Adopted: April 27, 1981

Revised: December 13,
2018

126 CLASS SIZE

Purpose

To ensure optimal learning conditions, class size limits are in place.

Authority

Class size for all grades, including kindergarten, shall be determined by the Board of Education after consultation with the Superintendent, based on School District factors and allowances.

Guidelines

Maximum class size in grades K-3 is (30). In all other regular classes, the maximum class size shall be (33).

Maximum class size in shop classes shall be determined by the number of workstations available for student use, but shall not exceed (24).

Exceeding the established class sizes is permissible under the following conditions:

- Unavailability of space or infeasibility of reorganizing kindergarten classrooms, in which case the maximum class size may go to (34) with the services of an assistant.
- There is no available space in the school.
- Observing the maximum class size would require placing classes on a short time schedule.
- A larger class size is necessary and desirable (i.e. ensemble music)

If the maximum class size is exceeded, the Principal shall notify the teacher in writing of the reason for the larger class. The Principal shall also notify the Superintendent or his designee.

The School District shall not exceed student to teacher caseload levels for Special Education students as determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The School District shall not provide less than 28 square feet per person in Special Education classrooms as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent and Principal will ensure that class size guidelines ~~be~~ remain consistent with state regulations and contractual obligations.

Legal References:

1. 22 PA Code Chapter 14