



BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date: March 23, 2022
To: Board of Trustees
From: Shawna Walter, Acting Superintendent
Originator(s): Jonathan Konrad, Acting Deputy Superintendent, Education Services
Tanya Sloan, Student Information Specialist
Subject: Class Size Information Reporting

Purpose:

To be received as information.

Background:

September 2019, Alberta Education discontinued the Class Size Survey Initiative and reporting by school jurisdictions.

Administration continues to track class size data to provide a Division snapshot and trend analysis. Class Size Information is gathered using the same criteria as the previous Alberta Education's Class Size Survey Initiative:

- A class is defined as a group of students with ONE teacher for 50% or more of the instructional time devoted to a subject.
- A multi-grade classroom with one teacher is counted as one class.
- Multi-graded classrooms are included in the higher-grade level. i.e. Grade $\frac{3}{4}$ combined would be included in the 4-6 category.
- Only first semester courses are included in this report.
- Only core courses are included – Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science. Irregular classes such as work experience and Distance Learning are not included.
- Outreach programs, the Hutterite Colony and Oak Hill are not included in the report.
- Data reported in this survey is as of **29 September 2021**. Significant staffing additions have been made at nearly all sites.

Administration would like to remind the Board of Trustees that Class Sizes and Class Targets are a function of the budget process. Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the March 23, 2022, Public Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Shawna Walter, M. Ed.
Acting Superintendent

Attachment



2021 - 2022 Class Size Analysis

All data reflects 29 September 2021 counts

Core Course Class Size Averages as of September 29												
Average by Subject Category	K to 3			4 to 6			7 to 9			10 to 12		
	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Language Arts	20.23	18.64	20.28	23.71	24.22	23.32	22.80	25.04	23.52	25.17	25.33	25.85
Mathematics	20.23	18.64	20.28	23.71	24.22	23.32	23.50	24.67	23.50	20.53	21.54	24.96
Social Studies	20.23	18.64	20.28	23.71	24.22	23.32	24.19	25.04	24.25	30.79	23.70	23.74
Science	20.23	17.82	20.28	24.30	23.74	23.32	24.17	25.04	24.94	25.63	20.38	18.37
AB 2003 Target	17.00			23.00			25.00			27.00		
AB 18/19 Avg	20.40			22.80			23.50			23.50		
Board Directed	19.45	19.45	19.45	27.95	27.95	25.95	29.95	29.95	27.95	29.95	29.95	26.30
Overall Average	20.23	18.44	20.28	23.85	24.10	23.32	23.66	24.95	24.05	25.53	22.74	23.23
Difference with Board	-0.78	1.02	-0.83	4.10	3.85	2.63	6.29	5.00	3.90	4.42	7.21	3.07
Difference with 2003 Target	-3.23	-1.44	-3.28	-0.85	-1.10	-0.32	1.34	0.05	0.95	1.47	4.26	3.77
Difference with 2018/19 Avg	0.17	1.97	0.12	-1.05	-1.30	-0.52	-0.16	-1.45	0.55	-2.03	0.76	0.27

Note: Many schools have received additional teaching staff since September. For example Sturgeon Composite had 4 teaching staff added to their allocation after this data was collected. This had a major impact on class sizes. For example, on this sheet, SCHS has 3 Science 10 classes; 34, 35, 32. Now they have multiple classes; 17, 19, 20, 16, 16, 13. All well below the core target of 27, or board recommended 29.95.