

## CLASS SIZE POLICY

Class size will be defined as the number of students under the supervision and control of a teacher, at any one time, for the purpose of instruction and learning.

The Fall Mountain Regional School Board will strive to maintain the class size that it deems appropriate for the effective instruction of students in accordance with financial realities. The Board recognizes that greater direct teacher contact with students is a positive aspect toward the educational growth of all children. The Board also recognizes that smaller class size requires a larger faculty with larger related instructional costs that will require an increasing tax burden on the taxpayers of the Fall Mountain Regional School District. The Board will seek to strike a balance in class size with its ability to finance a higher level of instructional expenditures.

(a) Class size for instructional purposes, in each school shall:

(1) Be:

a. Kindergarten – grade 2, 25 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 20 students or fewer per teacher;

b. Grades 3 – 5, 30 students or fewer per teacher, provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 25 students or fewer per teacher; and

c. Middle and senior high school, 30 students or fewer per teacher provided that each school shall strive to achieve the class size of 25 students or fewer per teacher;

or:

(2) Have received approval under alternative compliance requirements as provided in Ed 306.29, for any category listed in (1) above that does not meet the standards in (1) above.

(b) These class size requirements may be exceeded for study halls, band and chorus, and other types of large group instruction, including but not limited to, lectures, combined group instruction, and showing of educational television and films.

(c) In the interest of safety, the maximum number of students in laboratory classes in such areas as science and career and technical education shall be determined by the number of work stations and the size and design of the area. In no case shall the number of students in laboratory classes exceed 24.

Minimum Class Size: All courses with an enrollment below six students will be submitted by the Superintendent of Schools to the School Board for approval.

For special subjects, class size average is determined by physical facilities, pupil stations, type of program, (vocational, physical education, arts, science laboratories).

Where circumstances dictate, supplementary assistance may be provided through volunteer programs, specialist staff assignments, paraprofessional assistance, and/or additional staff requisition. Smaller classes may be

combined to even out the enrollment bulges. When balancing classes, consideration should be given to the even distribution of children with exceptional needs.

The School Board reserves the right and authority, within NH School Approval Standards, on a case by case basis, to establish class size.

**Legal References:**

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.17, Class Size

FMRSD

Adopted: 9/27/93

Revised: 2/25/2008