

Education Program

Series 600

Policy Title:Class Size-Class Grouping

Code No.606.1

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It is within the sole discretion of the board to determine the size of classes and to determine whether class grouping will take place.

The Board of Directors recognizes that grouping is the organization of students into classroom units for the purpose of instruction. Grouping may be defined as the placement of students in groups so that individual needs may be met in a more satisfactory manner.

The practice of grouping students shall be done for the purpose of providing an improved educational opportunity for students to develop their maximum potential.

The following principles should be considered as guidelines to use whenever decisions are being made to group students for instruction. Instructional grouping should:

- A. Promote improved academic achievement of all students.
- B. Provide equitable access to curricular and enrichment opportunities and varied instructional approaches.
- C. Enhance student self esteem.
- D. Promote instruction between diverse students.

Permanent tracking practices are not an acceptable grouping procedure and long term ability grouping should be limited in its duration, flexible and assessed regularly to determine the impact and effectiveness of the grouping arrangement.

A variety of grouping options should be available to students. Heterogeneous grouping practices should be utilized most frequently with the majority of students. In addition students should experience other grouping procedures such as temporary skill groups, cooperative learning groups, interest groups, talent groups and limited homogeneous grouping. At the secondary level, students may self select courses that allow specialization in vocational or college bound programs.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board on class size based upon the financial condition of the school district, the qualifications of and number of licensed employees, and other factors deemed relevant to the board.

Adopted: Fall, 1969

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3 (2013).

Reviewed: June 1, 2009

June 16, 2014

Amended: March 23, 1992
October 15, 2018

Cross Reference: 606.6 Insufficient Classroom Space