

DATE: November 29, 2011

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Class Size Breakdown of Ward I Schools (Trustee Request #128)

ORIGINATOR: Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE STAFF: Bruce Cline, Carolyn Baker, Ardis Olsen, Rhonda Cantelon, Jan Favel, Inga Melenius, Maureen Lanuke

REFERENCE: October 11, 2011 Board Meeting (Trustee Cleary)

ISSUE

The following information was requested: provide information regarding a class size breakdown of Ward I schools with consideration of the Alberta Commission on Learning (ACOL) Guidelines.

BACKGROUND

Alberta Education requires each school district to provide class size information based upon class composition on September 30.

The ACOL suggested average class size figures by division for school jurisdictions to use as a target. These averages encompass classes throughout an entire jurisdiction and are not intended to be a minimum or maximum.

CURRENT SITUATION

Frame of reference for class size data presented in this report:

Class size is a representation of averages throughout district schools. Thus, included in the figures are large classes and smaller classes that are then combined and averaged to reach a school and district average class size. To truly understand the class sizes within an individual school it is necessary to know the context, composition and purpose of the class organization within that school. Often classes are purposely large or small to fulfill a programming outcome and will fluctuate in size throughout the year.

A class for the purpose of class size data collection is defined by Alberta Education as a grouping of students which a certificated teacher provides 50 percent or more of the instruction.

In the case of combined classes, such Grade 3-4, all the students are counted as being a part of division two despite the fact the Grade 3 students are in division one. This causes some inaccuracies in the calculation of averages for each division.

Programs that provide additional support for students such as Reading Recovery, which may impact overall class size averages, are also not factored into calculations as they do not meet the definition of a class.

Educational assistants while counted in the class size data are not factored into class size calculations.

It is important to note that these figures are a snapshot in time, most schools subsequent to September 30th and throughout the school year, in order to best serve their school population, make adjustments to their individual class sizes. This means that the data presented in this report is not completely representative of current class sizes in our district schools.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Class Size Summary Ward I

BC:jf

**Class Size Summary
Ward I (Trustee Cleary)**

School Name	Core Subjects				All Subjects			
	K to 3	4 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 12	K to 3	4 to 6	7 to 9	10 to 12
Bisset	20.6	23.9			20.5	24.0		
Crawford Plains	19.9	21.3			19.8	21.5		
Daly Grove	19.9	22.8			19.8	22.8		
Dan Knott			23.0				22.4	
Edith Rogers			24.3				23.1	
Ekota	20.0	17.0			20.0	17.4		
Ellerslie Campus	22.8	29.4	26.3		22.9	29.4	26.4	
Grace Martin	22.8	20.9			22.7	21.4		
Greenview	19.0	26.5			19.0	26.5		
Hillview	20.6	17.8			20.3	17.9		
J. Percy Page				27.7				25.6
Kameyosek	21.6	24.3			21.6	26.0		
Kate Chegwin			25.3				25.0	
Lee Ridge	14.8	16.8			14.9	17.1		
Malcolm Tweddle	23.8	20.3			23.8	20.6		
Menisa	19.0	22.4			19.8	22.9		
Meyokumin	19.6	23.9			19.9	23.3		
Meyonohk	18.4	22.1			18.6	22.4		
Millwoods Christian School	22.4	26.9	27.1	26.7	23.0	26.9	26.2	24.5
Minchau	19.6	20.0			20.0	20.1		
Pollard Meadows	23.8	24.1			23.9	24.0		
Sakaw	21.3	19.0			21.2	19.2		
Satoo	18.4	16.2			18.4	16.6		
T. D. Baker			26.0				25.1	
Tipaskan	22.4	18.0			22.3	17.7		
Weinlos	20.1	18.8			19.8	19.7		
Ward I Average	20.6	21.7	25.1	27.6	20.6	22.0	24.3	25.5