

## INSTRUCTION – CLASS SIZE

Bemidji Area Schools recognizes that students do best with a high quality teacher in a classroom of reasonable size. With this as a goal, the school district will continue to maintain reasonable and responsible class size within the constraints of the school district’s financial and facilities limitations.

### I. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (K-5)

- A. The target class size for instruction in elementary schools should be as follows:
  - 1. Kindergarten – Grade 2: 25 pupils
  - 2. Grade 3 – Grade 5: 30 pupils
- B. The target pupil load for specialists (music, art, physical education) should not exceed, depending on the size of the school, travel time, and other variables, 12 sections per day.

### II. MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-8)

- A. The target class size for instruction in any “pod” should not exceed 130 students, exclusive of classes in physical education, music, art, and technology education.
- B. Target class size for instruction in physical education is 40 pupils.
- C. Target class size in technology education and/or lab settings should not exceed the number in which space and equipment will accommodate effectively and safely.

### III. SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

- A. The goal in grades 9-12 is to have generally up to 35 students per class period per teacher.
- B. Music and physical education will be exceptions to the grades 9-12 class size target.
- C. Target class size in technology education and/or lab settings should not exceed the number in which space and equipment will accommodate effectively and safely.

### IV. REPORTING

- A. The Superintendent of Schools shall make a written report to the Board of Education in October and February of each school year regarding class size. The reports shall identify any class or pupil load that exceeds the targets identified herein, the circumstances which make these exceptions necessary, and any interventions that have been implemented and/or recommendations for Board action(s) to address the needs of students in affected classrooms.