



**Mission:** To Serve Every Student with Excellence as the Standard.

**Vision:** Brevard Public Schools will serve our community and enhance students' lives by delivering the highest quality education in a culture of dedication, collaboration, and learning.



Updated: Monday, November 07, 2011

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# Class Size Amendment

## Welcome to Brevard Public Schools' Class Size Reduction Web Site!

This site provides information on how we are structuring our classes to meet the class size amendment requirements. This site also provides a historical perspective of the amendment and information on the 2010 Florida Legislature's proposal to modify the amendment.

*The Revision of the Class Size Requirements for Public Schools will be on the November 2010 ballot, noted as Amendment Number 8. For more information, please visit the Florida Department of State, Division of Elections at <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/initiatives/initdetail.asp?account=10&seqnum=75>.*

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## Brevard Public Schools' Class Size Amendment K-12 Strategies

### Elementary Schools

- The Board provided a .5 unit to each school to assist with their elementary art program.
- Multi-Age Classroom Formation
- Dual certified exceptional education teacher to basic classroom (serving Exceptional Education students and basic students)
- Science lab teacher to basic classroom

### Middle Schools

- The Board provided 6 of 7 supplements for teachers for core class overages.
- Some middle schools will have an additional Math teacher working between mesh teams to accommodate Algebra/Geometry classes in order to alleviate large class size in general math.
- Increase numbers in all non-core academics and electives.

### Senior High Schools

- The Board provided 6 of 7 supplements for teachers for core class overages.



- The Board provided 6 of 7 supplements for teachers for elective class student enrollment (Driver Education).
- Increase class size in non-core academics and electives.
- Change to a fourth credit requirement in Science and/or Social Studies.
- Combine classes such as Chorus and Drama or Year Book and Newspaper.


#### **Out-of Area**

- Denial of out-of-area applications.
- Following six-day count, the district will review requests and make adjustments where needed based on class size amendment requirements.

#### **Brevard Public Schools' Key Dates – Timeline**

##### **August 10, 2010 School Board Meeting – 2nd Public Hearing**

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##### **July 20, 2010 School Board Meeting – 1st Public Hearing**

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#### **Six-Day Count Adjustment Meetings:**

- August 19, 2010
- August 20, 2010
- August 23, 2010
- August 24, 2010

#### **October FTE Student Count Day for Class Size Amendment Requirements:**

- Friday, October 15, 2010

#### **History of Florida's Class Size Amendment**

In 2002, citizens approved an amendment to the Florida Constitution that set limits on the number of students in core classes (such as Math, English, Science, etc.) in the state's public schools. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the maximum number of students in each core class would be:

- 18 students in prekindergarten through grade 3;
- 22 students in grades 4 through 8; and
- 25 students in grades 9 through 12.

In 2003, the Florida Legislature enacted Senate Bill 30-A that implemented the amendment by requiring the number of students in each classroom be reduced by at least two students per year beginning in the 2003-04 school year, until the maximum number of students per classroom did not exceed the requirements in

law. The amendment would be calculated as follows:

- 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 at the district level
- 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 at the school level
- The 2009 Legislature extended the calculation at the school level for an additional year to include 2009-2010.
- 2010-2011 at the classroom level

### **Florida's Class Size Amendment - 2010 Legislative Session**

In 2010, the Florida Legislature approved a constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot that will ask voters to change the state constitution's current maximum class sizes to "school-wide average class sizes." If the amendment is approved by voters, maximum class size would be calculated based on the school-wide average of the number of students in core classes assigned to each teacher beginning with the 2010-2011 school year and be:

- 18 students in prekindergarten through grade 3;
- 22 students in grades 4 through 8; and
- 25 students in grades 9 through 12.

In addition, the proposed change to the constitution would set the maximum number of students assigned to each teacher, while not exceeding the school-wide average, to be:

- 21 students in prekindergarten through grade 3;
- 27 students in grades 4 through 8; and
- 30 students in grades 9 through 12.

### **Class Size Implementation Budget**

To date, the Florida Legislature has appropriated more than \$16 billion toward operational expenses and \$2.5 billion in facilities funding to implement the Class Size Amendment. Below are the funding amounts for each category since the amendment was put into law.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Operating Funds</b>	<b>Facilities Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
2003-04	\$ 468,198,634	\$ 600,000,000	\$ 1,068,198,634
2004-05	\$ 972,191,216	\$ 100,000,000	\$ 1,072,191,216
2005-06	\$ 1,507,199,696	\$ 83,400,000	\$ 1,590,599,696
2006-07	\$ 2,108,529,344	\$ 1,100,000,000	\$ 3,208,529,344
2007-08	\$ 2,640,719,730	\$ 650,000,000	\$ 3,290,719,730
2008-09	\$ 2,729,491,033	\$ 0	\$ 2,729,491,033
2009-10	\$ 2,845,578,849	\$ 0	\$ 2,845,578,849
2010-11	\$ 2,927,921,474	\$ 0	\$ 2,927,921,474
<b>Total to Date</b>	<b>\$ 16,199,829,976</b>	<b>\$ 2,533,400,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,733,229,976</b>


### Consequences of Not Meeting Class Size Requirements

Financial penalties are assessed on school districts who do not meet class size amendment requirements. The FLDOE will redistribute the funds collected from these penalties to districts that have fully met the class size requirements.

For more information, please visit page 22 of the CS/HB 5101 Prekindergarten through Grade 12 Education Funding at <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=h5101er.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=5101&Session=2010>

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**2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera, FL 32940 321-633-1000 ext. 500**

**Ethics Hotline 321-633-1000 ext. 170 | **

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