

To: Board of Education

From: David Cunningham, director, human resources & legal services

Re: Board Policy Committee Recommendation

Date: November 12, 2018

Background:

Board Policy IE Planning for Instruction deals with staffing, scheduling, and class size. With respect to class size, several factors are considered when determine the number of students assigned to a certified teacher in a general education classroom. The listed factors are instructional needs, best-practice, class enrollment, student demographics, teacher availability, budget, and facility limitations. This policy also includes goals for elementary class size. These goals have not generally been achieved in a majority of the district's elementary schools. Of the listed factors, budget and facility limitations have been the most significant considerations in driving class size, not the enumerated goals. The goals may, in fact, cause unnecessary concerns and lead to patron frustration when facing class sizes they consider too high. Since the board and superintendent will be engaging in conversations regarding class size during the districts' strategic planning process, and the fact these goals have never been realized, the committee believes it is prudent to remove that section from Board Policy IE Planning for Instruction. The committee also recommends making minor grammatical corrections.

Recommendation:

The Board Policy Committee recommends the review of the referenced policy. Once the review is complete and any suggested changes are considered, the committee will submit the final recommendations for amendment at the December 10, 2018 board meeting.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education approve the review of the referenced policy for possible amendment at its December 10, 2018 board meeting."