


# Classroom Size Policies & Procedures

Background Information &  
Data for Decisions

Marcy Open Parent Site Council  
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## Target Class Sizes Vary Based on the School Profile

Target class sizes for individual schools may vary based on the school profile. MPS signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers in 2013 that established class size targets for high-priority schools (Anishinabe, Bancroft, Cityview, Folwell, Green Central, Elizabeth Hall, North High School, Olson, Pratt and Sheridan). These schools have lower class size targets than other MPS schools because their students demonstrate greater academic need based on the Multiple Measurement Ratings (MMRs) determined by the Minnesota Department of Education.

## Target Class Size Determination

For a school such as Burroughs, the target class size is 26 students for grades K-3 and 32 students for grades 4-12. We determine class size targets through our enrollment projections (how many students we expect to enroll) and the funding that MPS receives based on that enrollment. Our budget is a major factor when determining class size targets because, for example, it would cost between \$2 million and \$3 million to lower class size by one student districtwide.

Target class sizes for non-high priority schools like Marcy are:

**K-3: 26 students**

**4-12: 32 students**

## Numbers Can Vary

It is important to remember that our **class size targets are goals, not limits, so some classes may exceed these targets by a student or two.** MPS wants to meet class size targets while providing families and students with choices about where to send their children to school. We also make it a priority to not require a student to attend a different school than his or her sibling because of a class size target. This practice has previously been identified as a value of our school district.

# School Administration Decisions

Sometimes school administrations schedule classrooms above the maximum targets while scheduling others below to eliminate split grades or provide more targeted academic programs.

## Lack of Space to Add Classroom

Finally, **at some schools, there is not space to add a classroom.** Where there are capacity constraints, co-teachers or associate educators reduce the size of instructional groups.

Data to identify if this is a problem at our school?