

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 17, 2003

SUBJECT: Class Size Targets for 2003-3004 and the Department's Role in Implementation

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve plans to provide assistance and monitor implementation of Amendment 9.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Commissioner recently approved and announced the class size calculations that will serve as baseline data for the implementation of Amendment 9. This release provides school districts with the required information to make budget and program decisions on how best to reach the constitutional mandate to reduce class size averages by two each year until the constitutional maximum is reached.

The Department has been working since passage of the amendment to restructure data collection and analysis to support assistance and monitoring of implementation. The Department will continue to play an active role, in cooperation with the Governor's Office and Legislature to ensure that school districts have accurate information and options for efficient implementation. Additionally, the Department will collect data to ensure a proper accounting of the status of each school district and will provide all parties information on effective strategies to reduce class size.

Supporting Documentation Included: (1) District Class Size Averages Report and
(2) Class Size Reduction Background Information and Implementation Plans.

Facilitators/Presenters: Jeanine Blomberg, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Accountability, Research and Measurement