

Charter School Implementation of Class Size Reduction

Department of Education

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The Constitutional Amendment Limits Class Sizes

- Section 1 of Article IX of the State Constitution was amended in November 2002 establishing, by the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, the maximum number of students in core-curricula courses assigned to a teacher in each of the following three grade groups:
 - 18 students in Prekindergarten through Grade 3.
 - 22 students in Grades 4 through 8
 - 25 students in Grades 9 through 12



The Constitutional Amendment Requires State Funding

- Payment of the cost associated with reducing class size to meet the class size reduction requirements is the responsibility of the state and not the local school districts. Beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the legislature shall provide sufficient funds to reduce the average number of students in each classroom by at least two students per year until the maximum number of students per classroom does not exceed the requirements of this subsection.



Class Size Operation Costs


	Operating Funds
2003-04 Appropriation	\$468,198,634
2004-05 Appropriation	\$972,191,216
2005-06 Appropriation	\$1,507,199,696
2006-07 Appropriation	\$2,151,230,571
2007-08 SBE Request	<u>\$2,865,506,576</u>
Total	\$7,964,326,693

How Class Size Funding was Calculated for 2006-07

	Grades PK-3	Grades 4-8	Grades 9-12
1 <u>Calculate Class Size % Reduction</u>			
1a Maximum by Constitution	18.00	22.00	25.00
1b Statewide Average Class Size, 2002-03 Baseline	23.07	24.16	24.10
1c Change Required from District 2002-03 Baseline	8.00	8.00	8.00
1d Class Size % Reduction (1c divided by 1b)	34.68%	33.11%	33.20%
2 <u>Calculate BSA Factor</u>			
2a Base Student Allocation (BSA)	\$3,981.61	\$3,981.61	\$3,981.61
2b BSA Factor (1d multiplied by 2a)	\$1,380.82	\$1,318.31	\$1,321.89
3 <u>Calculate Class Size Reduction Allocation Factor</u>			
3a Teacher Costs as a % of Operating Funds	55.01%	55.01%	55.01%
3b Class Size Reduction Allocation Factor (2b multiplied by 3a)	\$759.59	\$725.20	\$727.17


How Class Size Funding was Calculated for 2006-07

4	<u>Calculate Funding</u>	Grades PK-3	Grades 4-8	Grades 9-12
4a	Class Size Reduction Allocation Factor (3b)	\$759.59	\$725.20	\$727.17
4b	Weighted FTE	223.96	449.00	534.24
4c	4a multiplied by 4b	\$170,118	\$325,615	\$388,484
4d	District Cost Differential (DCD)	0.9762	0.9762	0.9762
4e	Class Size Reduction Funding (4c multiplied by 4d)	\$166,070	\$317,866	\$379,239



Section 1003.03(2), Florida Statutes,
Implements the Constitutional Amendment by
Establishing measures for Compliance

- ❑ Establishes a baseline based on data from the February 2003 student membership survey.
- ❑ Establishes a method of measuring compliance and schedule for implementation.
- ❑ Establishes requirements of those districts found to be non-compliant.



Section 1003.03(2), Florida Statutes,
Schedule for Implementation of Compliance with the
Constitutional Amendment

Level at Which Compliance Will Be Measured

For All Grade Groups by Year

School Year	Compliance Measured at
2003-04 to 2005-06	District-Level
2006-07 & 2007-08	School-Level
2008-09 & After	Classroom-Level



Implementation Options

- ❑ Dual enrollment
- ❑ Florida Virtual School
- ❑ Repeal policies requiring more than 24 credits for graduation
- ❑ Adopt policies to allow graduation after passing the grade 10 FCAT and completing the necessary courses
- ❑ Maximize use of instructional staff
- ❑ Reduce the cost of school construction



Implementation Options

- ❑ Joint-use facilities
- ❑ Alternative methods of class scheduling
- ❑ Redraw school attendance zones
- ❑ Operate schools beyond the normal operating hours
- ❑ Use year-round schools and other nontraditional calendars
- ❑ Review and consider amending any collective bargaining contracts
- ❑ Any other approach not prohibited by law



Accountability – Class Size

- Beginning in 2005-2006, DOE must report to the Legislature by January 1 of each year districts that have not met the two-student-per-year reduction.
- Districts that have not met the two-student-per-year reduction will be required to implement one of the following policies in the subsequent year:
 - Year-round schools
 - Double sessions
 - Rezoning
 - Maximizing use of instructional staff



Accountability – Class Size

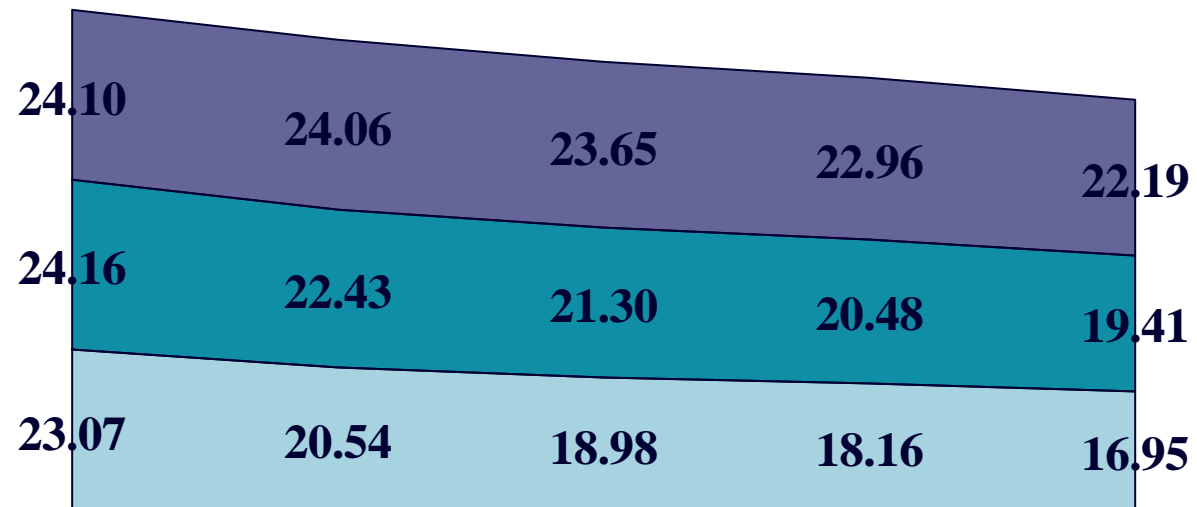
- A school district that is required to implement one of the policies must correct in the year of implementation any past deficiencies and bring the district into compliance with the two-student-per-year reduction goals established for the district by the department.
- The district superintendent must report to the Commissioner the extent to which the district implemented any of the policies.
- The Department of Education shall use statutory enforcement authority to ensure that districts comply with the provisions.
- Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the department shall annually determine which districts do not meet the requirements.



Accountability – Class Size

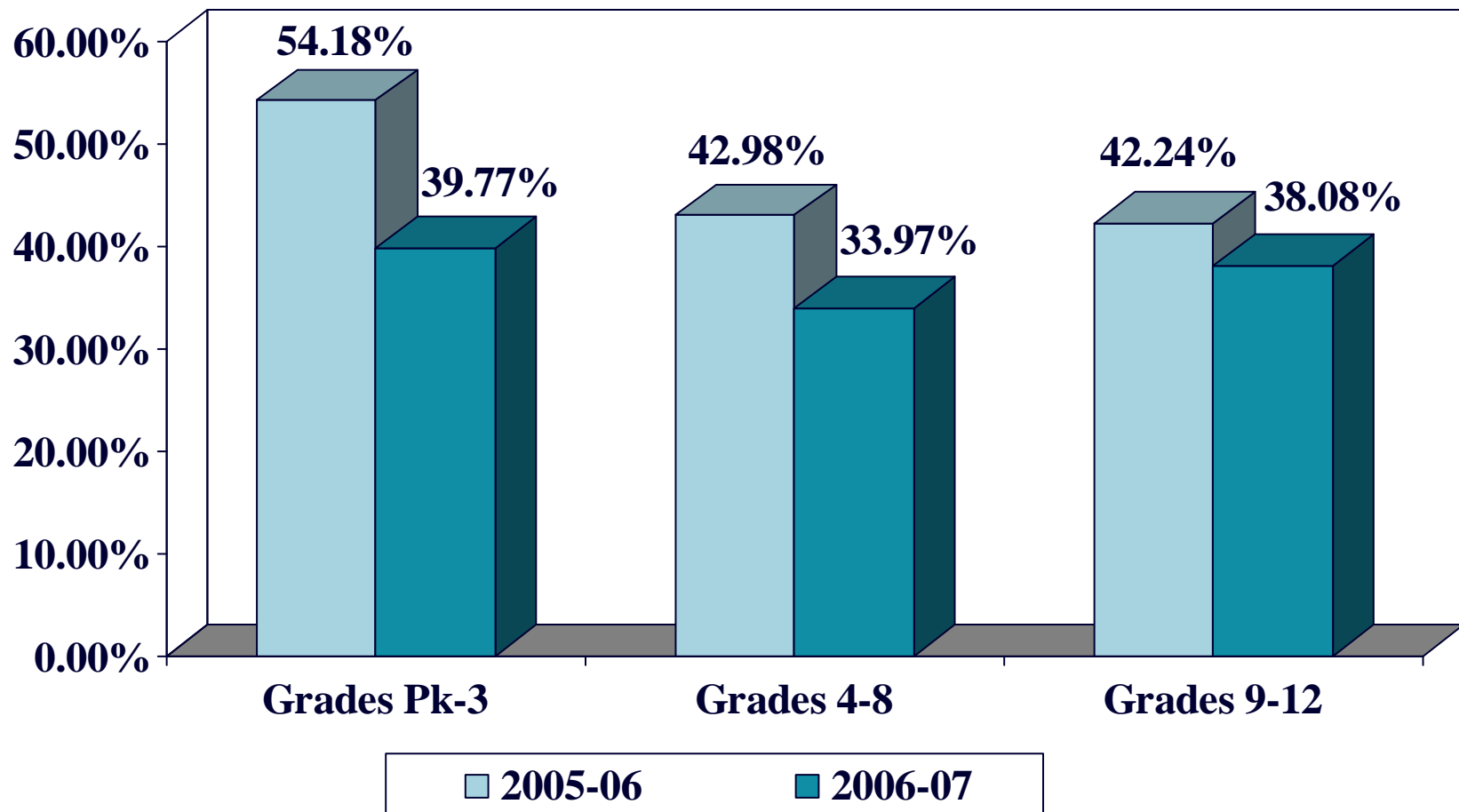
- DOE shall develop a constitutional compliance plan for each such district which includes:
 - Redrawing school attendance zones
- Each district school board shall implement the constitutional compliance plan developed by the state board until the district complies with the constitutional class size maximums.

Trends in Class Size Reduction

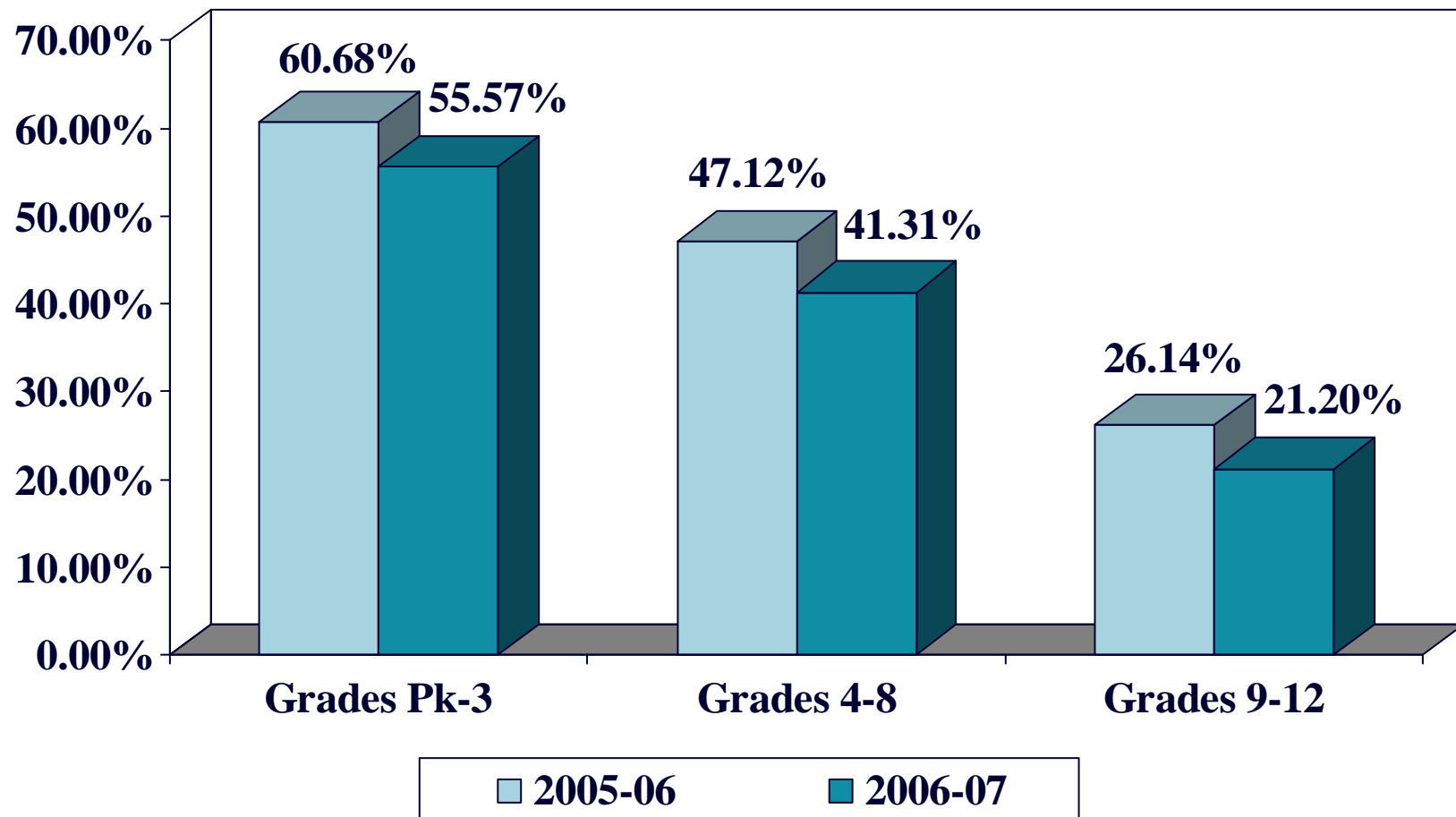


	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
■ Grades 9-12	24.10	24.06	23.65	22.96	22.19
■ Grades 4-8	24.16	22.43	21.30	20.48	19.41
■ Grades PK-3	23.07	20.54	18.98	18.16	16.95

Percent of Traditional Classrooms over Class Size Cap



Percent of Charter Classrooms over Class Size Cap





Class Size Reduction Level of Accountability and Charter School Requirements by School Year

2003-04 – Accountable at District Level Charter School Compliance Requirements

- Charter school Class Size Data collected in Survey 2.
- Charter school data **not included** in district average.
- Charter schools plan to meet compliance requirements.



Class Size Reduction Level of Accountability and Charter School Requirements by School Year

2004-05 – Accountable at District Level Charter School Compliance Requirements

- Charter school Class Size Data collected in Survey 2.
- Charter school data **not included** in district average.
- Every charter school submits Class Size Reduction Plan to DOE as directed in August 2004 Technical Assistance Paper.



Class Size Reduction Level of Accountability and Charter School Requirements by School Year

2005-06 – Accountable at District Level Charter School Compliance Requirements

- ❑ Charter school Class Size Data collected in Survey 2.
- ❑ Charter school data **not included** in district average.
- ❑ DOE determines in January which charter schools are not in compliance and notifies charter schools and their districts.
- ❑ Every operating charter school submits a Class Size Reduction Plan to DOE as directed in October 2005 Technical Assistance Paper.
- ❑ Charter schools have opportunity to come into compliance in Survey 3.
- ❑ DOE analyzes plans and provides assistance to schools not in compliance after survey 3.



Class Size Reduction Level of Accountability and Charter School Requirements by School Year

2006-07 – Accountable at School Level Charter School Compliance Requirements

- Charter school Class Size Data collected in Survey 2.
- DOE determines in November which charter schools are not in compliance and notifies charter schools and their districts.
- Every operating charter school submits a Class Size Reduction Plan to DOE as directed.



Class Size Reduction Level of Accountability and Charter School Requirements by School Year

- Charter School Compliance Requirements
 - 2007-08 – Accountable at School Level
 - 2008-09 – Accountable at Classroom Level
 - 2009-10 – Accountable at Classroom Level
 - 2010-11 – Full Compliance



Uses of Class Size Reduction Funds

- Charter schools that are not in compliance with the constitutional maximums may use the categorical operating funds “to reduce class size in any lawful manner.”
- If compliant with the constitutional maximums or the reduction of two students per year, priority should be given to increase salaries of classroom teachers.



Transfer Calculation

- **Calculate** an amount from the class size reduction operating categorical which is proportionate to the amount of class size reduction not accomplished.
- **Verify** by Florida Education Finance Program Allocation Conference.
- **Transfer** funds to capital outlay.



Example Transfer Calculation

□ Formula:

- Proportion Under Target / Two Student Reduction = Proportion of Allocation Subject to Transfer x Grade Group Allocation = Dollar Amount Subject to Transfer to Capital Outlay

□ Example:

- $.25 / 2.00 = .125 \times \$1,000,000 = \$125,000$



Appeal Process if District Did Not Meet “Requirements Despite Appropriate Effort To Do So”

- District submits evidence
- State Board of Education reviews evidence
- Commissioner recommends alternative amount to be transferred
- Legislative Budget Commission approves alternative amount to be transferred



Process and Timelines for Appeals

- November 29
 - Memorandum from Commissioner notifying districts and charter schools of the October 2006 school-level class size averages. Appeals process begins for those that are not in compliance with class size reduction requirements
- December (upon completion)
 - Memorandum from the Commissioner notifying districts and charter schools of the initial transfer calculation.
- January 2
 - Deadline for submission of appeal and supporting documentation.
- January 3 – January 12
 - Review of Appeals
- January 16
 - State Board of Education meeting for final determination of transfer calculations.
- February (to be determined)
 - Legislative Budget Commission meeting for final approval of transfer calculations.



Use of Transferred Funds

- Section 1013.62(2), Florida Statutes:
 - A charter school's governing body may use charter school capital outlay funds for the following purposes:
 - (a) Purchase of real property.
 - (b) Construction of school facilities.
 - (c) Purchase, lease-purchase, or lease of permanent or relocatable school facilities.
 - (d) Purchase of vehicles to transport students to and from the charter school.
 - (e) Renovation, repair, and maintenance of school facilities that the charter school owns or is purchasing through a lease-purchase or long-term lease of 5 years or longer.



2006 Legislation – HB 7087

Team-Teaching Strategies

- Teaching strategies implemented on or after July 1, 2005, may be implemented subject to the following restrictions:
 - **Reasonable limits shall be placed on the number of students in a classroom so that classrooms are not overcrowded. Teacher-to-student ratios within a curriculum area or grade level must not exceed constitutional limits.**
 - **At least one member of the team must have at least 3 years of teaching experience.**
 - **At least one member of the team must be teaching in-field.**
 - **The teachers must be trained in team-teaching methods within 1 year after assignment.**



Team-Teaching Implementation Plan

- ❑ Occupancy governed by Florida Fire Code
- ❑ Curriculum area and grade-level class size averages must meet constitutional caps
- ❑ 2005-06 School-Level Class Size Averages have been adjusted per new law.



Team-Teaching

- Team Teaching is an umbrella term and includes
 - Co-teaching
 - If two or more teachers are assigned to a group of students and **each** of the teachers is responsible for **ALL** of the students during the **ENTIRE** period span indicated on the schedule.
 - Inclusion, i.e., In class one-on-one
 - If two teachers are assigned to one term/classroom/period, but one of them is only responsible for one student or a small group of students in the classroom.



This presentation will be available online at:

<http://www.firn.edu/doe/cefo/budget.htm>