

Avon Grove School District Class Size Project Charter

Resource Plan

Project Name: Avon Grove Class Size Study
Sponsor: Avon Grove Board of School Directors
Responsible: Mrs. Bonnie Wolff, Board Member
 Dr. Margaret Sharp, Assistant Superintendent
Process Owner: Avon Grove Board of School Directors

Resources:

- Avon Grove Board Policy No. 126
- Literature review of class size research
- Existing and forecasted data on number of students, teachers and classrooms
- Existing and forecasted facilities use reports
- Projected financial reports

Task Force Members:

Administrator(s), teacher(s), parent(s), community member(s), school board member(s), Board Finance Committee (as required), Board Facilities Committee (as required), Board Personnel Committee (as required), consultant(s) (as required).

Goal & Objectives

Goal:

To review the Avon Grove School District Class Size Policy No. 126.

Objectives:

1. Review and evaluate K-12 current and forecasted class size and staffing
2. Review and evaluate current and future District facilities
3. Review current and future District financials
4. Conduct an extensive review of the current class size literature
5. Conduct a review of the class size policy for school districts in Chester County, including number of certificated teachers and aides
6. Develop proposed recommendations and conduct feasibility study regarding facilities and financials
7. Provide final recommendations regarding Board Policy No. 126 to the Board of School Directors
8. Provide an implementation plan to accomplish recommendations related to Board Policy No. 126
9. Provide a process to communicate results, monitor/communicate progress, and review Policy No. 126

Project Overview

Opportunity Statement:

The average class size in grades kindergarten through 12 in the Avon Grove School District is close to the number as stated in Board Policy No. 126. The policy was adopted in April 1997. There is concern with the existing policy.

Goal Statement:

The goal of this project is to review the Avon Grove School District Board Policy No. 126. As an outcome of this goal, guidelines for class size for grades kindergarten through 12 will be developed. The guidelines will take into account data on existing and expected future number of students; the number of (basic skills) teachers, other certificated professional staff, and aides; facilities (classrooms and other space), financials, land, and typical building construction timelines.

Project Scope:

The project will focus on grades kindergarten through 12 over the next five years. This project will include an analysis of student enrollment, staffing, facilities, financials and current research regarding class size. Out of project scope: full-day kindergarten.

Project Plan Milestones:

August 2008 - Finalize charter, identify task force members through an application process, and develop an agreed upon project approach

September/October 2008

1. Analyze and synthesize data (existing and projected numbers of students, teachers, aides, facilities, financials, class size research)
2. Conduct a review of the class size policy for school districts in Chester County including number of certificated teachers and aides

November/December 2008 - Develop proposed recommendations and conduct feasibility study regarding facilities and financials

January 2009 - Develop final recommendations and implementation plan for presentation to the Board of School Directors

February 2009

1. Present recommendations and an implementation plan to the Board of School Directors
2. Design and implement a process to communicate results, monitor/communicate progress, and review Board Policy No. 126

Expected Benefits (target savings, or revenues):

A class size policy that reflects current research, balanced with the educational, financial, and physical needs, and capability of the community.

Risks (to revenues, cost, schedules, etc.):

The identification and implementation of recommendations may be challenging in light of the research, the desires of constituents, and the District financials, including the implications of Special Session Act 1 of 2006.

