

INSTRUCTION

Science Education

The District endeavors to provide a high school science curriculum that offers students opportunities to engage in hands-on laboratory experiences as part of the basic coursework of the class.

Additional space is needed in order for students in science classes to safely conduct experiments and handle chemicals and materials which are part of a laboratory experience in a safe manner.

Science classes which conduct labs that use chemicals or other potentially harmful materials should be staffed so that each student in the class has a minimum of 45 square feet per student. Research shows that this staffing ratio is consistent with a significant reduction in accidents in high school science labs.

District administration shall staff high school science classrooms and assign students to those classrooms in the following manner: The number of square feet in the classroom will be divided by 45 to determine the maximum number of students which may be assigned to any period in the classroom. See examples below.

Size of Room in Square Feet	Square Footage per Student	Maximum # of Students
1200	45	26.7
1300	45	28.9
1400	45	31.1

Exceptions to these limits can only be made with an agreed upon written strategy between the teacher and administrator that describes how other safety strategies will be implemented to ensure that the safety of all the students will be protected. In addition, all exceptions must be approved by the Director of Secondary Education.

Adopted: October 24, 2018 - for implementation in the 2021-22 school year