REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO CLASS SIZE

I. Class Size Caps

Class size caps refer to the maximum number of students enrolled in a single classroom and are reviewed and set annually by the School Board during the budget process. Elementary class size caps shall be set at the following:

Kindergarten: 22 Grade One: 24 Grade Two: 24 Grade Three: 26 Grade Four: 26 Grade Five: 26

At the middle and high school levels, the Virginia Standards of Quality establish student to teacher ratios instead of class size caps. The School Board complies with these ratios, codified in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-253.13:2.

II. Special Conditions:

A. Exceeding Class Size Caps

Because the Code of Virginia allows larger elementary class size caps than those established by ACPS, these caps may be exceeded slightly under the special conditions listed below. However, they may not exceed the student to teacher ratios set in the Code of Virginia.

- 1. Siblings of current students will be allowed to enroll in the school that their sibling attends even if class size caps are exceeded.
- 2. ACPS recognizes the contributions made by military service personnel and will work to accommodate military children as provided in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Va. Code § 22.1-360). This will include placement at schools previously attended by a student prior to a change of station or in the boundary school where the military family may reside, even if class size caps are exceeded.
- 1.3.Under special circumstances involving student health, safety and security, the Superintendent may authorize exceeding the cap.

B. Limiting Class Size Caps

1. In keeping with Policy IHB, based upon a review of school enrollment and physical classroom capacity, the Superintendent may authorize reductions in class size at individual schools, including Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy.

Established: April 11, 2013

Revised:

Legal Ref: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-253.13:2

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children,

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-360

Cross Ref: IHB Class Size

JC/JCD Student Placement

JC-R/JCD-R Regulations Governing ACPS Student Placement Options

With the exception of Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, elementary class size caps shall be set at the following:

Kindergarten: 22

Grades One and Two: 24

Grades Three through Five: 26

These caps may be exceeded slightly under special conditions determined by the Superintendent.

One example: if the class is capped and a sibling of a student already enrolled (or previously enrolled and currently in an ACPS middle school) applies, that student (or students) will be permitted to enroll and exceed the cap.

If a new family with more than one child wants to enroll and the class for only one of the children is capped, that family will have the following options:

Enroll one child in the class that has room and enroll the other in a contiguous or nearby school that has space.

Move both children to the designated nearby or contiguous school.

New administrative transfers will not be granted to a school/grade level that is at or near capacity.

The issues of school capacity and class size are reviewed by the School Board annually during the budget process. During that process, the Superintendent makes enrollment projections public,

and the public is invited to provide comment to the Board.

April 11, 2013

