

Code No. 606.1

#### CLASS SIZE - CLASS GROUPING

It shall be within the sole discretion of the board to determine the size of classes and to determine whether class grouping shall take place. The board may review the class sizes annually.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board on class size based upon the financial condition of the school district, the qualifications of and number of licensed employees, and other factors deemed relevant to the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3 (1995).

Cross Reference: 606.6 Insufficient Classroom Space

Approved 7/10/89

Reviewed 11/10/97  
8/12/03  
9/15/08  
9/16/13  
11/12/18

Revised 12/8/97

## SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The school district will continue school ceremonies and observances which have become a tradition and a custom of the education program. These include, but are not limited to, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and observance of holidays, such as Christmas, Halloween and Easter, by programs and performances. Such ceremonies or observances shall have a secular purpose and shall not advocate or sponsor a particular religion.

Students who do not wish to participate in these activities may be silent during the ceremony or observance or receive permission from the principal to be excused from the ceremony for religious reasons in compliance with board policy.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I.  
Lee v. Weisman, 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).  
Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S. 602, (1971).  
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur County, 608 F.Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).  
Iowa Code § 279.8 (1995).

Cross Reference: 603 Instructional Curriculum  
604.5 Religious-Based Exclusion From A School Program

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Code No. 606.3

### ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM

Live animals will not be allowed in school district facilities except under special circumstances and only for an educational purpose. Permission from the principal will be required of anyone wishing to bring an animal into school district facilities. Appropriate supervision of animals is required when animals are brought into the school district facilities.

The person bringing the animal must furnish transportation for the animal brought to school. Animals will not be allowed to travel to and from the student's attendance center on the school bus without prior approval from the principal.

It shall be the responsibility of the principal to determine appropriate supervision of animals in the classroom.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (1995).

Cross Reference: 507 Student Health and Well-Being

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## STUDENT PRODUCTION OF MATERIALS AND SERVICES

Materials and services produced by students at the expense of the school district are be the property of the school district. Materials and services produced by students at the student's expense, except for incidental expense to the school district, are be the property of the student.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to determine incidental expense.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (1995).

Cross Reference: 408.2 Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials

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9/16/13  
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## STUDENT FIELD TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS

The principal may authorize field trips and excursions when such events contribute to the achievement of education goals of the school district. The school district will provide transportation for field trips and excursions.

In authorizing field trips and excursions, the principal shall consider the financial condition of the school district, the educational benefit of the activity, the inherent risks or dangers of the activity, and other factors deemed relevant by the superintendent. Written parental permission will be required prior to the student's participation in field trips and excursions. Board approval will be required for field trips and excursions which involve unusual length, any over-night stay or unusual expense.

Field trips and excursions are to be arranged with the principal well in advance. A detailed schedule must be submitted by the employee. The school district will be responsible for obtaining a substitute teacher if one is needed. Following field trips and excursions, the teacher may be required to submit a written summary or an oral report to the board of education describing the event.

Legal Reference: 390 C.F.R. Pt. 390.3(f) (1993).  
Iowa Code § 279.8 (1995).  
281 I.A.C. 43.9.

Cross Reference: 503.1 Student Conduct  
503.4 Good Conduct Rule  
603 Instructional Curriculum  
711 Transportation

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9/16/13  
11/12/18

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### INSUFFICIENT CLASSROOM SPACE

Insufficient classroom space shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. In making its determination whether insufficient classroom space exists, the board may consider several factors, including but not limited to, the nature of the education program, the grade level, the available licensed employees, the instructional method, the physical space, student-teacher ratios, equipment and materials, facilities either being planned or under construction, facilities planned to be closed, financial condition of the school district and projected to be available, a sharing agreement in force or planned, a bargaining agreement in force, laws or rules governing special education class size, board-adopted school district goals and objectives, and other factors considered relevant by the board.

This policy shall be reviewed by the board annually. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to bring this policy to the attention of the board each year.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 282.18(13) (1995).  
281 I.A.C. 17.6(3).

Cross Reference: 103 Educational and Operational Planning  
501.15 Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures as a Receiving District  
606.1 Class Size - Class Grouping

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