

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**Title:** Individual Class Size Exceptions Waiver Requests**Type of Executive Summary:**

Action Action on First Reading Discussion Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
 General Statute #115C-301
 SBE Policy # _____
 SBE Policy Amendment
 SBE Policy (New)
 APA # _____
 APA Amendment
 APA (New)
 Other _____

Presenter(s): Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Paul LeSieur (Director, School Business Division), and Mrs. Alexis Schauss (Assistant Director, School Business Division)

Description:

It shall be the responsibility of local boards of education to assure that the class size and teaching load requirements set forth in G.S. 115C-301 are met. Requests for individual class size waivers are required to be submitted to the State Board of Education after the second school month and the remainder of the school year, if the individual class exceeds the allotment ratio by three students so long as the LEA-wide average class size maximums is not exceeded. There may be additional waivers submitted for the April SBE meeting. If there are class size waivers reviewed after the submission of this report but prior to the April Board meeting, they will be provided to the State Board as a late item.

Resources:

Additional teacher(s), if the local board cannot organizationally correct the exception. Within 45 days of receipt of the request, the State Board within funds available, may allot additional positions or grant a waiver for the excess class size or daily load.

Input Process:

A request from an LEA for an individual class size waiver in grades 4-12, or request for additional positions to restructure and alleviate the class size overage situation. The request is reviewed by DPI staff to validate the reason for a request by the LEA by looking at classes offered and class sizes of the school through reports generated from the student information submitted by the LEA at the end of the 2nd month of school. A determination is made based on the information available or additional information is requested to validate the decision of whether the waiver should be approved or denied.

Stakeholders:

Teachers, students, parents, LEAs and DPI staff

Timeline For Action:

This item is being presented for Action on First Reading of the Individual Class Size Waiver request at the April 2008 SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

The Department recommends that the State Board of Education approve the attached waiver pertaining to the class size exception request submitted by Alexander County, the Department will then notify the LEA(s) of the action taken by the State Board of Education.

 Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
Specify: _____

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Vote: Yes _____ No _____

Abstain _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Doris McCain, 807-3700

**Requests for Individual Class Size Waivers for the 2007-2008 School Year
Students Over the Allowable Maximum as Required by G.S. 115C-301(g)
As of March , 2008**

Note (1) DPI comments are denoted by bold text. Alexander County comments from the Individual Class Size Waiver request are in regular text.

LEA	School	Grade	Number of Students	Over by	Type of class	# Other Classes ⁽¹⁾	Other Classes Affected and Reason for Request(1)	Recommendation	Date of Request
020 Alexander	Sugar Loaf Elementary	K	25	1	Self Contained	none	This school has two Kindergarten classes with 24 and 25 students. This class was at 22 students on the 40 th day. This is a small school with 277 students in Kindergarten through 5 th grade and is located in a remote area. Changing the configuration of the classes would cause a disruption to the school at all levels. Geographic Isolation	Approve	2/20/2008

Notes:

(1) Other class overages (music, art, media, foreign language, etc.) that are created in addition to this class size exception.