



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	October 1, 2026
Agenda Item:	Class Size / Enrollment
Item Type:	Report
Administrator:	Jeanne Grazioli, Jennie Snow, Kirk Kolb
Objective:	To update the Board on enrollment and class sizes

Background: Annually, at the beginning of each school year, staff provides the Board with an update on student enrollment and class sizes across the District. This report provides a current snapshot of enrollment, class size averages, and caseloads for the 2026–27 school year.

Enrollment: As of September 23, 2026, total enrollment is 13,396 students, a decrease of 292 students (2.13%) compared with the same period last year. Non-charter enrollment is down 322 students (2.78%), while charter school enrollment is up 30 students (1.42%). Among non-charter schools, elementary enrollment is down 3.8%, middle school enrollment is down 3.6%, and high school enrollment is down 0.9% year over year.

It is important to note that districts are required to submit an official enrollment count to ODE as of October 1 each year. That calculation considers partial enrollment, attendance and other factors not reflected in the preliminary enrollment estimate provided today. As a result, our official ODE enrollment count is generally slightly lower than the preliminary count.

For funding purposes, Oregon's State School Fund calculation provides declining-enrollment protection by using the higher of the applicable current-year or prior-year student count. Given continued enrollment declines, we anticipate the District will benefit from this provision in 2026–27, as will many districts across Oregon.

Elementary School Class Size: The Medford School District has maintained lower class sizes over the past several years, and doing so remains a high priority to the extent funding allows. We are pleased to share that we currently have only four blended classrooms across all of our elementary schools. Average class sizes remain below the thresholds established in the MEA contract. For individual classrooms approaching or exceeding those thresholds, we are providing additional classified support time.

Middle School Caseload and Class Size Average: At our middle schools, we are below 180 total students per core teacher, with the exception of PE, as allowed in the contract. Average core class sizes across our three middle schools currently range from 21.9 to 31.7 students.

High School Caseload and Class Size Average: Similarly, at our high schools, we are currently below 180 total students per core teacher, with the exception of PE, as allowed in the contract. We began the school year with approximately ten teachers above the 180-student target caseload. In response, we identified the need for additional sections at South and added those early in the school year. Caseloads also naturally adjusted following the 10-day drop period for core classes and PE/Health. Overall, we are pleased with where our high school class sizes and caseloads have settled.

Additional Materials:

[District Enrollment Comparison](#)

[Elementary Class Size Chart](#)

[Middle School Average Class Size Chart](#)

[High School Average Class Size Chart](#)

Recommendation: Information only

Suggested Motion: N/A