

BRAZOSPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

October 28, 2024



BOARD:	Action
SUBJECT:	Class-Size Exceptions for Bess Brannen Elementary School
BOARD POLICY:	EEB (Local)
DISTRICT GOAL:	BISD learning environments will be safe and conducive to learning.
FISCAL NOTE:	None

Background Information:

- In accordance with the District's Local Innovation Plan, the District is exempt from state law requiring a district not to enroll more than 22 students in PreK–grade 4 classrooms.
- As stated in the plan, the District shall not enroll more than 24 students in kindergarten–grade 4 classrooms.
- Should a class size exceed 22:1 for more than 35 days, the Board of Trustees must approve an exception.
- Bess Brannen Elementary School has three First Grade classrooms that exceed the 22:1 ratio.

Administrative Considerations:

- The district seeks to maintain a 22:1 student to teacher ratio in grades K-4.
- As the year progresses, at times the student to teacher ratio will exceed 22:1 due to new enrollment. However, the second classroom fluctuates from 22 to 23 enrolled students.
- Options to address classrooms that exceed the 22:1 maximum class size for more than 35 days include:
 - Adding a teacher
 - Add a certified teacher to the class to create a Co-Teach environment
 - Move a student enrolled by transfer back to his or her home campus or another campus in the district
 - Add a paraprofessional in accordance with district staffing ratios (This option requires the Board of Trustees to grant a class size exception.)
- Currently, Bess Brannen Elementary School has a paraprofessional and an apprentice teacher supporting first grade classrooms. Therefore, the staff needed to adequately provide support

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to the classrooms for which administration is seeking the Class-Size Exception is already in place.

- It is the administration's recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve a Class-Size Exception for the Brannen Elementary School first grade classrooms where enrollment exceeds 22:1.

Communication Deployment:

- Board Meeting minutes
- Letter to parents

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Respectfully submitted,

Rita Cundieff
Deputy Superintendent of Elementary Academics