

CLASS SIZE REDUCTION and SUPPORT FOR TEACHING

(BSEP Measure E1, Resource 0841)

PLAN OVERVIEW: F78OCI

sizes at all District-operated K-12 schools, and may also be allocated to provide funding for professional development, classroom support, program evaluation, and expanded course offerings.¹

Budget Managers:

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The goal of class size reduction has been a major component of every BSEP measure since 1986. Earlier BSEP measures set class size goals of around 26:1 for the elementary schools; under BSEP Measure A of 2006, the goal was a district-wide average class of 26:1 for the elementary school grades, with a further reduction to 20:1 at K-3 to qualify for the State of California program which rewarded districts for achieving that goal.

In 2013-14 the State changed class size reduction targets to 24:1 school-wide for K-3, which occasioned a reexamination of the elementary class size configuration in the BUSD. The 20:1 goal at K-3 made the transition to 26:1 at 4th grade mathematically challenging in schools with fewer sections, yielding either large classes or mixed grade classes.

With BSEP Measure E1, beginning in FY 2017-18, the District-operated elementary school average class sizes are being gradually adjusted, with the aim of achieving balanced class sizes in all elementary schools with school-wide K-5 averages of 23:1 achievable by the sixth year of the measure. This exceeds the State goal of 24:1 at K-3. The BSEP class size goals for grades 6-12 remain at district-

resources and then calculates additional staffing to be paid for by BSEP funds.

The recommendation for 2017-18 is based on the following assumptions:

Staffing enrollment of TK-12 students is projected at **9,317**.

Average compensation (includes salary and employer paid fringe benefits) of classroom teachers is projected at **\$102,399**. This includes the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) contribution of 12.58% in FY 2017-18.

The indirect cost rate for FY 2016-17 is **5.96%**.

Under the terms of Measure E1, the revenues dedicated to class size reduction purposes may be spent for all costs attendant to them, including operational costs, and other costs associated with the opening or maintaining of classrooms to reduce class sizes. These costs are shown in the teacher template as “direct support.” The costs of substitute teachers are also included in the overall staffing costs. BSEP therefore reimburses the General Fund based on the average teacher cost, plus expenses for substitutes, and direct support.

PROGRAM SUMMARY AND GOALS

