

Ministry of Education
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2015: SB14

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Joshua Paul
Director
Education Finance Branch

DATE: **May 15, 2015**

SUBJECT: **2015-16 Primary Class Size Plan**

I am writing to you today to share information about the 2015-16 Primary Class Size (PCS) reporting requirements. In 2015-16, as in previous years, school boards should continue to organize elementary classes so that on a board- wide basis:

- At least 90 per cent of primary classes have 20 or fewer students;
- 100 per cent of primary classes have 23 or fewer students;
- 100 per cent of combined grade 3/4 classes have 23 or fewer students; and
- The board-wide average size of Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) classes is 26.

FDK continues to be excluded from each board's calculation of primary class sizes and the board-wide elementary class size average. However, any classes at FDK schools where kindergarten is combined with grade 1 will be subject to the targets for primary classes.

As in 2014-15, and in keeping with the Ministry's efforts to reduce board reporting requirements, the Ministry will no longer require the completion or submission of preliminary plans in June. However, the website is now available as a sandbox tool to aid school boards plan for class organizations and enrolment projections for all elementary grades for the 2015-16 school year.

The Ministry is requesting that boards report class size results no later than October 30th on the Primary Class Size website at: <https://pcs.edu.gov.on.ca>. The log-in and password to access the PCS website remains unchanged from the previous year and instructions on the use of the web application are accessible from the Home page.

In September, the web application should be used to report actual class size results as of the reorganization date chosen by each board. The reorganization date should be no earlier than September 8 and no later than September 30, 2015.

As noted in the 2015:B07 memo “Grants for Student Needs Funding for 2015-16”, the Ministry may take action beginning in 2015-16, including applying GSN cash withholdings, if a board’s FDK or primary class size results are not in compliance with the Class Size regulation for two years in a row beginning with its 2014-15 results.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Sebastian Franks by telephone at (416) 325-2002 or by email at Sebastian.Franks@Ontario.ca.

Original signed by

Joshua Paul
Director
Education Finance Branch

cc: Superintendents of Business and Finance