

CLASS SIZE

- WHEREAS, Smaller class size, particularly in the early grades, is one of the few educational strategies shown to increase learning and narrow the achievement gap; and
- WHEREAS, Smaller class size in the middle and upper grades are linked to higher student achievement and lower rates of dropouts and disciplinary referrals; and
- WHEREAS, Teachers with smaller class sizes experience better working conditions and have a better chance to succeed; and
- WHEREAS, The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's "2011 Missouri Accreditation Standards for Public School Districts" minimum class size standards are as follows; K-2 (25 students), grades 3-4 (27 students), grades 5-6 (30 students), and grades 7-12 (33 students); therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers (Missouri PTA), its units and councils, encourage school districts to maintain smaller class sizes in all grades; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri PTA, its units and councils, encourage the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to maintain or decrease the minimum and desired standards of class sizes; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri PTA, its units and councils, encourage the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a written master plan of significantly reducing class size recommendations by at least fifteen percent (15%) of the "Missouri Accreditation Standards for Public School Districts" within the next five (5) years by the beginning of the 2017 school year; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Missouri PTA, its units and councils, strongly urge the Missouri State Legislature and local taxing bodies to increase the funding for public schools without decreasing funding from existing educational programs in order to make these reductions in class sizes possible.