

WELLINGTON School District

www.usd353.com

Leaders of Innovative Future-Focused Real World Learning



Dear Wellington Community,

I want to take this opportunity to update you on district class size discussions that have been taking place over the past few months. The district, along with our Board of Education, feel it is important to make clear the purpose of these discussions as well as our intentions and goals and to ask for more community input.

USD 353 enrollment has been declining over a number of years as our population has also declined. This has caused a discrepancy in class sizes across district schools over time. The first step in addressing this issue is to decide an adequate and appropriate class size for each grade level in our district to make sure we have numbers to target the restructuring process.

This month, administrators met with teachers and school site councils, comprised of community members and parents, to discuss this topic. The discussions revolved around both what class sizes teachers felt were most successful along with building Site Council's view as to what our community patrons would support with tax dollars. The following numbers are the average of those discussions by grade:

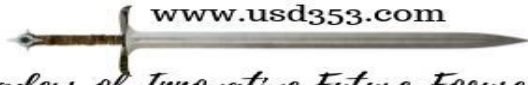
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	15	18	18	18	18	22	22	22	22	22	22	22

I have said this before, but I want to make sure it is clear that the district has no intentions of making any current staffing cuts. These discussions and data will help us with future planning, hiring and structuring of the district, as well as ensure our district is set up for success.

As a member of our community, we are interested in any feedback you would like to provide to us on this subject prior to continuing the discussion with our Board of Education. If you have

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any input on the work that has been done so far please email Shelby Metcalf, at smetcalf@usd353.com.

Adam Hatfield

Superintendent, USD 353