

In 2009, Citizens For Education analyzed class sizes in the middle schools. The only classes that were considered for the analysis were in the five core subject areas - Math, English/Language Arts (including Literacy in 7th grade), Social Studies, Science and World Language. As an ongoing assignment, Citizens tracks the current year class size data. While not enough time has elapsed to demonstrate trends, some interesting shifts in data are identifiable. Please refer to the chart below for the middle school class size comparisons.

In 2009, there were significant differences in the number of classes running with 25 or more students between the three middle schools. Specifically, over 60% of Newtown Middle School (NMS) 7th grade classes had over 25 students, while at Richboro Middle School (RMS), that number was 14%. Holland Middle School (HMS) was at 50%. This year (2010), in eighth grade comparisons, the percentages are 52% for RMS, 55% for NMS, and 54% for HMS. So they appear to have equaled out over the last 12 months, with RMS increasing the number of larger enrolled classrooms. It should be noted that 5 of the 10 classes at RMS that are over 30 are in world language classes, where German was not offered this year and the school lost a .2 teacher in that subject area.

One other relevant change is in the number of classes actually running at each middle school in the core subject areas. RMS ran 100 classes this year versus 101 last year. At both NMS and HMS there was a 5 section reduction in the number of classes. The total classes went from 167 to 162 at NMS, which had a 44 student reduction in population, and 142 to 137 at HMS, which had a reduction of only 18 students school wide.

Citizens For Education will continue to update our membership on trends in class sizes at the secondary level in future newsletters.

Grade	<u>RMS</u>		<u>NMS</u>		<u>HMS</u>	
	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
<u># of Classes</u>						
19 or Less Students	25	9	17	11	11	14
% of classes	50%	18%	21%	14%	17%	20%
20-25 Students	23	15	28	25	18	19
% of classes	46%	30%	35%	31%	28%	26%
26-29 Students	2	16	22	26	27	21
% of classes	4%	32%	27%	32%	41%	29%
30 + Students	0	10	14	19	9	18
% of classes	0%	20%	17%	23%	14%	25%
Total Classes	50	50	81	81	65	72

	Foundations	Academic	Honors	Humanities	Total
RMS					
# Classes	5	54	37	4	100
Average Class Size	10	22	23	11	

NMS					
# Classes	8	104	43	7	162
Average Class Size	13	25	26	16	
HMS					
# Classes	10	82	38	7	137
Average Class Size	12	26	27	16	