

Running Classes as Enrollment is Declining

Over the last three years, the high school population has shifted due to the redistricting of Richboro Middle School to CR South. The population at CR North has declined by 264 students to date while the population at South has remained steady at close to facility capacity. This can result in difficulties meeting class size minimums to offer classes and/or finding space to run classes. There are three options the school district exercises to mitigate these issues: cancel the class, shuttle students between the two high schools or combine two classes of similar content.

Every year, certain classes are cancelled due to low student enrollment. Often, but not always, the classes are electives. If the class doesn't run for three consecutive years, a recommendation may be made to the School Board to have the class permanently dropped. This year, at both North and South, 20 courses are not running due to lack of enrollment or space constraints:

| North | | South | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Subject Area | # of Classes Dropped | Subject Area | # of Classes Dropped |
| English | 2 | English | 2 |
| Science | 3 | Science | 3 |
| Social Studies | 1 | Social Studies | 1 |
| Art | 4 | Art | 4 |
| Family/Consumer Science | 3 | Family/Consumer Science | 3 |
| Music | 3 | Music | 3 |
| Technology Education | 4 | Technology Education | 4 |

As an alternative to cancelling a class, some key classes are shuttled from one high school to the other. There are a total of 7 shuttle classes this year. In total, 15 students from North, and 17 students from South utilize the shuttle system:

| North to South | | South to North | |
|-----------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| Subject | # of Students | Subject | # of Students |
| German 1 | 7 | French 1 | 6 |
| AP German | 6 | AP French | 4 |
| AP Music Theory | 2 | AP Computer Science | 6 |
| | | Hon. Modern World History (Humanities) | 1 |

Recently the district has been combining more classes of similar content to meet the minimum enrollment requirement and allow the classes to run. The teacher differentiates his/her class work to accommodate students at the appropriate level. There are a large number of combined classes, most notably in the areas of Art, Music, and Technology Education. At North, where the population decline has resulted in difficulty maintaining enrollment minimums, there are 30 combined classes running this year. At South, there are 22 combined courses, which may be a matter of enrollment minimums and/or space constraints. The breakdown of subject area classes being combined are in the chart below.

| North Combined Classes | # of Classes | South Combined Classes | # of Classes |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| English | 2 | English | 1 |
| Math | 1 | Math | 1 |
| World Language | 3 | World Language | 1 |
| Art | 8 | Art | 7 |
| Family/Consumer Science | 1 | Family/Consumer Science | 2 |
| Music | 5 | Music | 5 |
| Technology Education | 8 | Technology Education | 4 |
| Business | 2 | Special Education | 1 |
| TOTAL Combined Classes | 30 | TOTAL Combined Classes | 22 |

Citizens For Education appreciates the time and effort that teachers put in to create a successful differentiated classroom experience for the students, allowing these classes to continue to be offered to students.