



# Small Schools Study

March Update  
3/14/08

## Small Schools Study Committee Preparing Report

The Small Schools Study Committee has been working in financial and programmatic subgroups and then reporting completed work back to the large group. After eight months of work, the goal was to prepare a final report and submit the report to Jerry Wilson, Superintendent of Schools, and the PSD Board of Education.

The final report will address the four charges of the committee:

1. Analyze the different size schools for program offerings, scheduling implications and cost ramifications.
2. Determine consistencies and essential classes, which can be offered through the analysis of prototypical models.
3. Recommend cost implications to affect 2008-09 student based budgeting.
4. Identify school sizes at which closure may be considered.

As part of addressing the fourth charge of the committee, to identify school sizes at which closure may be considered, the financial subgroup has reviewed information on per pupil, administrative, utility, and cumulative costs.

The programmatic subgroup identified criteria related to student achievement; the ability to offer common planning time for teachers; the ability to educate the whole child; unique programming; the ability to ensure student safety; provide equitable duties and workload for teachers; deliver the mission of the district; retain quality staff; attract students; provide extra curricular options; and provide appropriate student support services including literacy, counseling, gifted and talented, and support for English language learners.

From these meetings the Small Schools Study Committee determined the costs associated with operating small schools, the cost savings possible if closure were to be considered, meeting the needs of all learners within a small school, and a school's ability to meet the criteria the programmatic subgroup studied.

Final meetings were held March 6 and March 13. During this time the committee continued to refine the programmatic criteria. The financial and programmatic criteria studied are now being prepared as part of the final report to be delivered to the Superintendent and Board.

For detailed information, visit the PSD web page at [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org), go to District Committee Updates, select Small Schools Study, or email [kevinh@psdschools.org](mailto:kevinh@psdschools.org).