



K-8 WALDORF-METHODS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

## **BP 3300 – Combination of Classes (Minimum Class Size)**

### **Policy**

Blue Oak School believes in the value of looping, or moving a class of students together, with the same teacher, through the grades. Blue Oak also believes in the value of small class sizes. At times, due to these combined values, class enrollment may experience a drop below a threshold which is not ideal for student learning and healthy socialization, nor is it fiscally viable to the overall school budget. When this occurs combining classes may be necessary. This policy defines how and when a decision is made to combine classes due to minimum student enrollment. Although it is common practice in Waldorf schools to combine different grades into one classroom, this policy is specific to the combination of two classes in the same grade level.

Blue Oak recognizes that enrollment tends to increase and decrease throughout the year. Most grades at Blue Oak are double-tracked, meaning there are two classes per grade.

The current class caps are as follows:

Kindergarten	22
Grades 1 – 3	28
Grades 4 – 8	28

### **Procedure**

The Executive Director may bring this to the attention of the Blue Oak Charter Council when:

1. Parents from either classroom bring concerns to Administration related to the social health of the class size or makeup;
2. The total enrollment in any grade is equal to or less than a combined class cap;
3. There is not enough enrollment/interest based on the Registrar's enrollment records for the new school year; and/or
4. Administration confirms knowledge of a large group of students planning to leave/not return the following school year, bringing the enrollment for the grade at or below the combined class cap.

Blue Oak Charter Council has the final authority and will make the final decision regarding combining any class once it is brought to the Charter Council by the Executive Director.

### **Adoption and Review**

**Date Policy Adopted: June 18, 2018**