

CAPACITY GUIDE - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CAPACITY

1. **FISH CAPACITY**: Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) capacity is based on State formulas for the number of student stations assigned to each instructional space at a school. Each school space is entered into the Educational Facilities Information System (EFIS) and student stations are assigned by the State based on the design code. The total number of stations assigned by the State is multiplied by the following percentages to calculate total capacity (this is to account for the ability to “float teachers”): Elementary – 100%; Middle – 90%; and High – 95%.
2. **DINING CORE CAPACITY**: The capacity of the dining area space, which is based on 3 meal seatings. Some schools have a multi-purposes space called a “cafetorium”, which has a very large dining capacity.
3. **PROGRAM CAPACITY**: A local measure that was developed to more accurately reflect capacity based on the actual usage of space at a school. Under current formulas, spaces used for essential special programs, are counted by the State as regular instructional space, thereby limiting our ability to construct adequate school facilities to meet growth and program needs. As a result, these formulas do not allow enough space for the many special programs in our schools.

Some examples of these special programs are listed below:

1. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL): In some neighborhoods, a higher than State-average number of ESOL programs is needed to serve the school population.

Many ESOL students require an intensive program with a lower teacher-pupil ration in a “pull-out” setting (typically in resource rooms). To meet this student instructional need in some schools will create competing uses for resource rooms with schools whose actual usage of resource rooms is much higher than recognized by the State.

2. Exceptional Student Education (ESE): Some clustering of ESE programs is desirable for economics of scale, adequate staffing and program quality. While clustering can maximize instruction and use of therapeutic resources, the State formula does not allow for clustering by allowing only one permanent and one temporary space per 500 students.
3. Parent Involvement: A primary focus of several Federally sponsored and mandated programs in the public school system is parent involvement and parent literacy. At times implementation of parent involvement programs requires that non-students (parents and young children) use space during the daytime to receive program services. In some schools these types of programs are critical to the success of their students. State formulas do not allow space to be set-aside for this purpose; therefore space used in this way counts towards permanent classroom space.

40 Elementary, 14 Middle and 2 High Schools have a Board approved Educational Specification that includes a program capacity calculation. On average, program capacity is about 85% of FISH capacity. Therefore, for schools that do not yet have an Ed Spec, we have used this percentage as a “plug” number for program capacity.

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4. **“ED SPEC” or EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATION**: A Board approved document that includes space relationships; Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E); and the number, size and types of spaces for various educational programs. The Educational Specification is one of many documents that are used by the design professional to create plans for new, modernized or additions to schools. “Generic” Educational Specifications for Elementary, Middle and High School are approved by the Board annually.
5. **STUDENT STATIONS**: The square footage required per student (as defined in SREF) for an instructional program based on the particular course content to be offered. Student stations are assigned by the State based on the design of a space either by type of space or by NSF.

RELOCATABLE CLASSROOM TYPES

1. **PORTABLE**: A non-concrete classroom that can be relocated. The capacity does not currently count for School Concurrency purposes but can be used to meet CSR ratios.
2. **CONCRETABLE**: A peaked roof concrete classroom that can be relocated. The capacity does not currently count for School Concurrency purposes but can be used to meet CSR ratios.
3. **MODULAR**: A structure that forms a complete building when combined with other modules or structural components and/or a demountable roof and/or wall sections. A modular building may also be a relocatable building. Modular classrooms may be one or two stories and can be designed in clusters to create a classroom wing or addition. Palm Beach County counts modulars as permanent space for School Concurrency and planning purposes.

See Figure A below

Relocatable Classroom Types

- **Portables**
(not permanent)



- **Concretables**
(not currently permanent)



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- **Modulars**
(count as permanent classrooms, w/walkways & connectivity. Can be 1 or 2- story structures)

