

A Seat of One's Own

Class Size Reduction in the Lowest Performing Schools in New York City



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop a plan for reducing class sizes in the SINI/SRAP schools at all grade levels.
2. Reduce class sizes in SINI/SRAP schools with available classrooms.
3. Identify available space in community school districts and high schools to create a space sharing plan to reduce class sizes in SINI/SRAP schools that need additional classrooms.
4. Target capital plan projects to reduce class sizes in the SINI/SRAP schools.
5. Identify the SINI/SRAP schools that need longer-term space strategies.
6. Develop a plan for a full day pre-Kindergarten program for 4 year olds in the SINI/SRAP schools.
7. Issue a semi-annual report on plan goals and benchmarks in reducing class sizes in the SINI/SRAP schools.

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MAJOR FINDINGS

2,522 classrooms are needed to reduce class size in the 408 SINI/SRAP schools to the BRICKS class size standard.

- 62 SINI/SRAP schools are already at reduced class size.
- 152 SINI/SRAP schools can reduce class size with 537 available classrooms within their buildings.
- 43 SINI/SRAP schools can utilize 152 classrooms in neighboring schools to reduce class size through re-zoning.
- 122 SINI/SRAP schools still need 1,546 classrooms to reduce class size that can not be provided within existing capacity. The potential impact of the new schools funded in the Capital Plan would be to reduce the classrooms needed by 680.
- 866 additional classrooms will still be needed after all the recommendations in this report have been implemented.
- 122 SINI/SRAP schools need 157 additional classrooms to expand pre-Kindergarten to a full day program for 4 year olds.
- 2 SINI/SRAP alternative high schools need additional classrooms to reduce class sizes. No strategy was recommended for these 2 schools given the special nature of the alternative high school programs.
- 27 SINI/SRAP schools have no class size data.

BRICKS Class Size Standards	
K-5	20
6-8	23
9-12	24