



Remote and Necessary Small School Committee Review

Summary

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to provide the fiscal committees of the Legislature with a list of Remote and Necessary Small Schools in January of odd-numbered years.

Statutory Citation

[WAC 392-349.015\(5\)](#)

Background

Beginning in 1996, every small school with Remote and Necessary status is required to be reviewed every four years by the Review Committee and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

As set forth in the state Operating Appropriations Act, a small school will lose its Remote and Necessary status if the number of students exceed the enrollment requirements for three consecutive years. The student population at a Remote and Necessary School must also meet the small school funding formula. Criteria to receive funding includes less than 60 students in K–6 grades and less than 20 students in 7–8 grades. A Remote and Necessary School may also lose its Remote and Necessary status if a local school district closes the school.

The grade span served at a Remote and Necessary School shall include the same district established eligibility as other elementary, middle, or high schools and meet the educational needs of the population served by that small school.

Criteria that must be considered to establish a school as Remote and Necessary includes:

- Existence of an intact, permanent community which is defined as a geographically site-specific, non-transient group of people. This factor must be met.
- Travel time to another school in the same district, or school in another district, is not less than sixty minutes one way; or the time to cross an international boundary is unpredictable, lengthy or both.

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- Student safety from a small school site, in the same school district to another school or to a school in another district, may be at risk due to the condition of roads or waterways, seasonal weather conditions, or topography.
- No availability of age appropriate, grade level, or cooperative programs in other school facilities in the district; or in the next nearest district(s); or other educational organizations approved or recognized by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Remote and Necessary Review Committee met on July 19, 2012 and affirmed the status of the Remote and Necessary Schools. You will find a current map of Remote and Necessary Schools attached as well as 2011–12 Remote and Necessary School Plants allocations.

Remote and Necessary School Sites		
School	District	Superintendent
Holden Village	Lake Chelan	Dr. Robert Manahan
Beaver Valley	Cascade	Steve McKenna
Yale	Woodland	Michael Green
Anderson Island	Steilacoom Historical	William Fritz
Waldron	Orcas	Barbara Kline
Decatur	Lopez	Bill Evans
Stuart	San Juan	Rick Thompson
Beach	Ferndale	Linda Quinn
Point Roberts	Blaine	Ron Spanjer

Remote and Necessary Review Committee	
Name	Organization
Bill Evans	Washington Association of School Administrators
Cindy McMullen	Washington State Board of Education
Ellen Ebert	Teaching/Learning Science, OSPI
Keri Lunstroth	Washington State Director's Association
Lorrell Noahr	Apportionment, OSPI
Michael Green	Washington Association of School Administrators
Scott Black	School Facilities and Organization, OSPI

For More Information

For more information regarding the Remote and Necessary Small School Review, please contact Gordon Beck, Director of School Facilities and Organization at (360) 725-6261 or gordon.beck@k12.wa.us.