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MEMORANDUM

TO: Felicia Ortiz, President
Nevada State Board of Education

FROM: Megan Peterson, Deputy Superintendent for Student Investment

DATE: March 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Report to the State Board of Education: Programs for Class Size Reduction in Fiscal Year 2024

Introduction

Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 388.700 outlines requirements intended for the reduction of student to teacher ratios for kindergarten through third grade through the development of annual Class Size Reduction (CSR) plans developed at the district level, and various quarterly, annual, and biennial reporting requirements; charter schools are excluded from these requirements. NRS 388.720 requires that school districts, together with the recognized associations representing licensed educational personnel, to develop a plan to reduce the pupil-teacher ratio within the limits of available financial support and submit that plan to the State Board. The Nevada Department of Education provided the template for this report on August 2, 2023, with an ultimate submission deadline of October 1, 2023.

The fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Annual CSR Report was completed by school districts to include identification of their class size reduction plan, their projected district-level class size ratios by grade, their anticipated number of variances by grade, narrative related to the district plan to reduce class size ratios, and certification of the plan by both the superintendent of the district and the relevant education association. The district plan included four prompts: the first to describe the district's strategies to meet class size ratios; the second to describe strategies to mitigate the impact of class sizes; third, to describe the anticipated use of funds; and last to identify goals for the 2023-24 school year.

On a quarterly basis, school districts are required to report the average daily enrollment of pupils and the number of licensed teachers designated to teach on a full-time basis in classes where core curriculum is taught, broken down by school, grade level, and classroom configuration. Per NRS 388.700, only licensed personnel teaching core curriculum classes may be counted for the class size ratio calculation; teachers of art, music, physical education, special education, librarians, and specialists may not be included for calculation purposes.

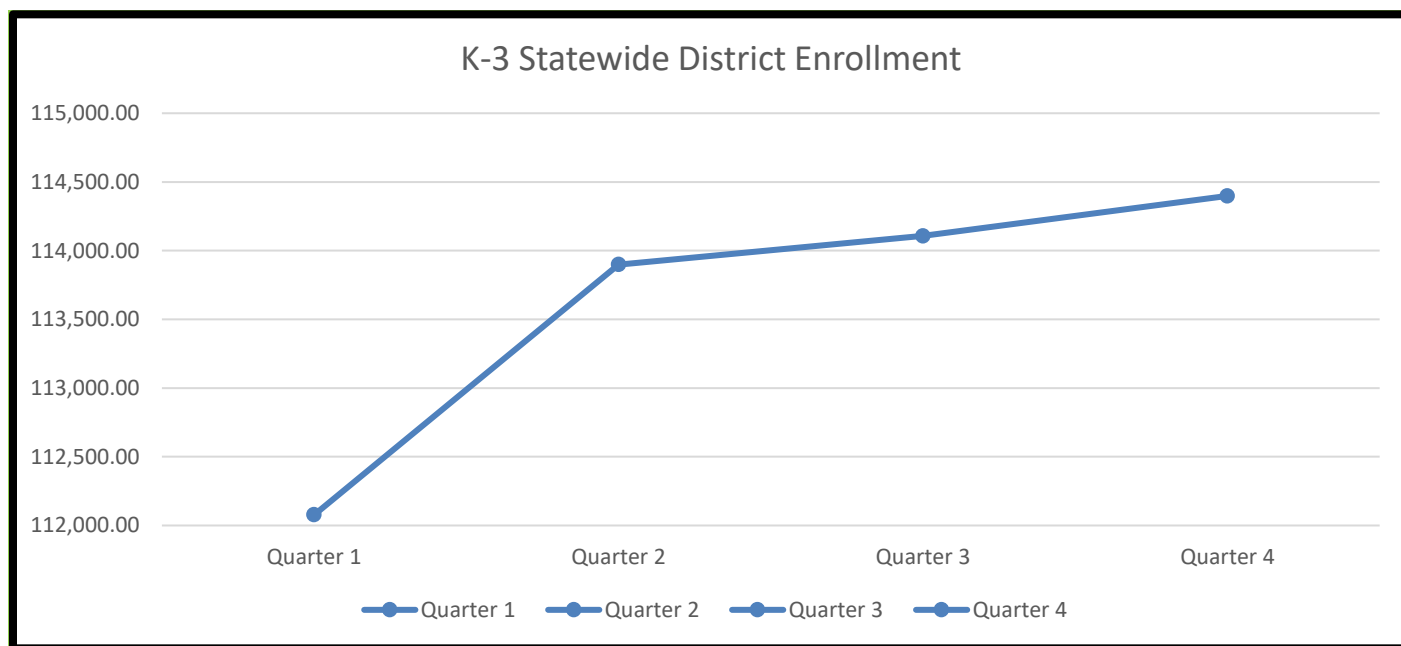
Each school that exceeds their target pupil-teacher ratio must request a variance for the next quarter of the school year, which the Nevada State Board of Education may approve for good cause. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, facility limitations, difficulty hiring, or funding limitations. Each variance must include the justification for the variance and a plan of action specific to that school to reduce the class size ratio, per Assembly Bill 204 (2019).

Class Size ratios under the regular and alternative plan are as follows:

Regular Plan			
<i>As prescribed in NRS 388.700(1)</i>			
Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade
16:1	16:1	16:1	18:1
Alternative Plan			
<i>As prescribed in NRS 388.720(2); Available for counties with populations less than 100,000 Fifth-Sixth Grades within elementary schools only</i>			
Kindergarten	First-Third Grades	Fourth Grade	Fifth-Sixth Grades
16:1	22:1	25:1	25:1

Enrollment

According to the Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) average daily enrollment (ADE) reports, enrollment across all grades statewide increased from 470,336 students in Q1 to 472,097 students in Q4. Approximately 29% of this enrollment is for grades kindergarten through third. Of the K-3 enrollment across the state, 83% of that enrollment is in district schools, with 17% in charter schools. The below graph charts the growth in each quarter for K-3 district enrollment.



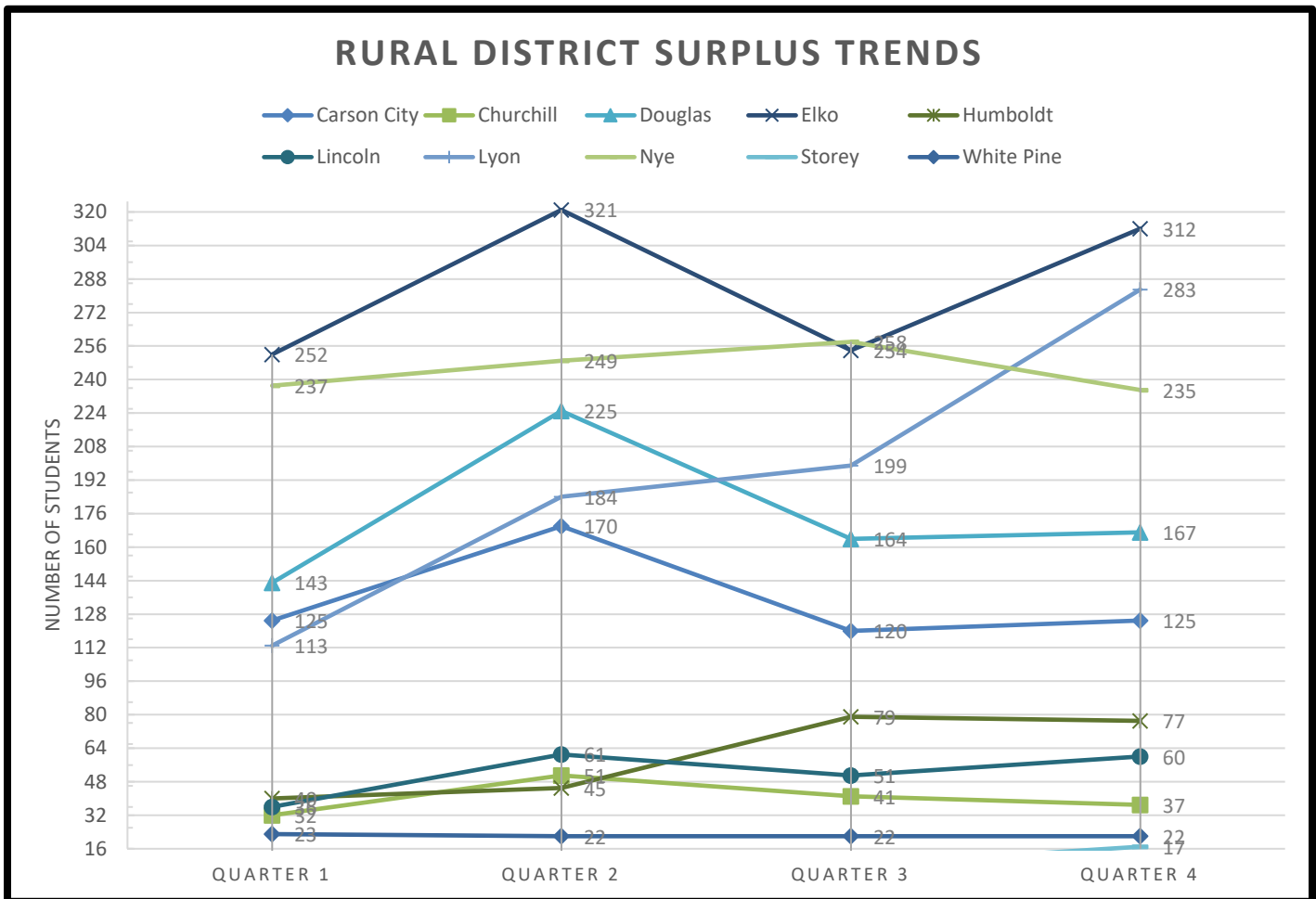
Districts on alternative plans also submit enrollment and educator counts for grades 4-6, however, only if those grades are within an elementary school. Because this data is not statewide, nor inclusive of all grades 4-6 within a given district, the averages are not meaningful reflections of ratios or the barriers to target ratios across the state. For context, 23% of statewide enrollment is for grades 4-6, approximately 107,690 students. Of the 4-6 enrollment across the state, 17% of enrollment is in charter schools. Of the 90,102 students enrolled in district schools in Q4, only 8,650 were reported for class size reduction purposes: 9.6% of district enrollment and 8% of statewide enrollment.

Students and Class Sizes

In alignment with Assembly Bill 266 (2021), NDE provided a count of “CSR Ratio Surplus” for each district. These numbers represented, by school and grade, the approximate number of students that would be without a classroom if the recommended class size ratio was treated as a cap. Reporting a kindergarten ratio of 21:1 in a school did not contextualize the circumstance for the grade, school, or district. A ratio of 21:1 indicates five students over the ratio; however, it matters whether there are two kindergarten classrooms in the school (a total

of ten students exceeding the ratio) of ten classrooms, leaving 50 students – easily three additional classrooms in a single school – over the recommended ratio.

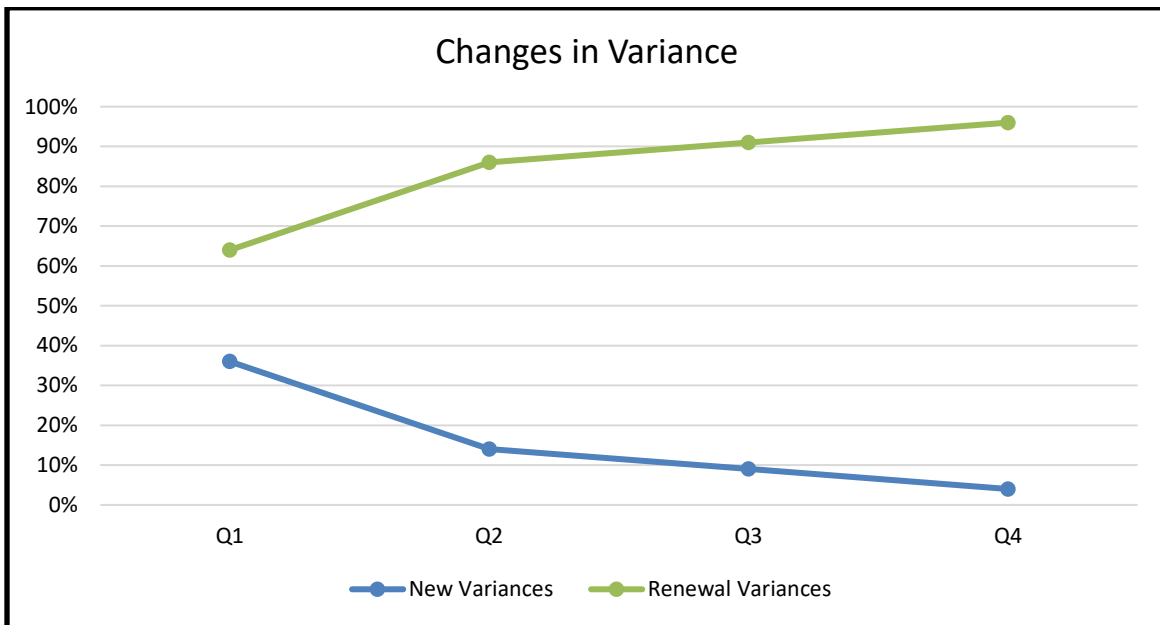
The chart below represents the number of students captured under this analysis for rural districts; Esmeralda, Eureka, and Lander are not represented as their numbers were <16 in each quarter. The majority of districts saw an increase in student enrollment between Quarter 1 (Q1) to Quarter 2 (Q2), however, showed successful efforts in class size reduction and were able to reduce their total number of students impacted by class size ratios between Q2 and Q4. Some districts, such as Lyon, saw consistent growth throughout the school year, with 113 students impacted in Q1 and 283 impacted in Q4; the most consistently impacted districts include Elko, Nye, and Douglas.



Variance Requests

In alignment with NDE’s 2020 Statewide Plan for the Improvement of Pupils (STIP) transparency strategy toward the goal that all students experience continued academic growth by streamlining reporting requirements, NDE worked with districts to renovate and pilot a new reporting process for CSR reporting. Each quarter, NDE provides a district-specific workbook that includes historical data from the previous quarter, including class sizes and the variances requested. When completing the quarterly report, all data entered is compared against the previous quarter’s data to determine whether a Renewal or New Variance would be more appropriate. For example, if John Doe Elementary had a kindergarten ratio of 20:1 in Q1, and a kindergarten ratio of 20:1 in Q2, they may submit a Renewal Variance. A Renewal Variance is a request for variance certifying that the data, reasoning, and school-level plan from the previously submitted (and currently approved) variance remains the same. New Variance requests must be submitted if either a) there has been an increase in ratio greater than one (e.g., John Doe went from 20:1 to 24:1 in kindergarten) or b) a variance is required and there was no variance submitted and approved in the preceding quarter.

In Q1 of FY23, there were 970 variance requests; in Q4, there were 1,075. The following chart illustrates the general stability of variance requests; once Q1 numbers were set to baseline for FY23, relatively few new variances were requested; those that were account for the changes in enrollment and ratio expressed in Rural District Surplus Trends and Average K-3 Class Size Ratios by District. By Q4, however, nearly all documented variances were stable from Q3 requests.



Many districts experienced similar gains, despite reporting funding limitations, and more specifically, consistent issues with facility limitations – notably, no rooms to hold classes and no funds to expand school buildings – and recruitment and retention efforts, whether that meant funds to pay teachers or larger struggles with the educator pipeline and teacher shortage.

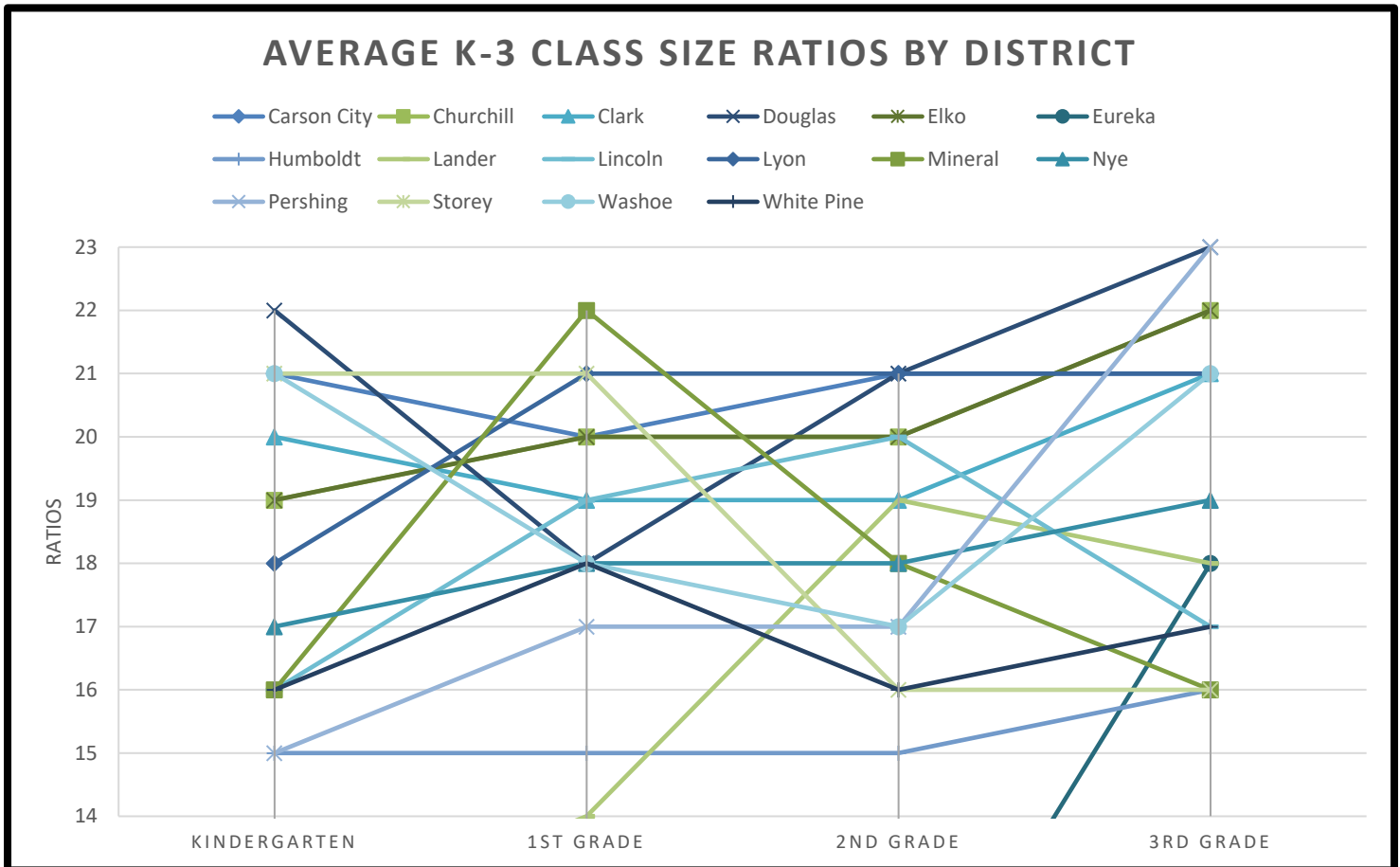
Districts may report one or more reasons for their variance request including: facility limitations, difficulty hiring, funding limitations, or other. On average, 93% of all variance requests throughout the year cited difficulty hiring, reflective of the increase in teacher shortages due to retirement, attrition, and decreases in recruitment and retention. Also, 91% cited funding limitations, most often describing insufficient funds to build classrooms, hire competitively, and/or generally expand programs, linking closely with cited issues of difficulty hiring and facility limitations. 80% of variance requests cited facility limitations, which typically reflect a lack of space to provide physical classrooms. Each variance may select multiple causes for the variance, and for many all three are selected.

Class Size Ratios

The statewide calculations for average class size ratios are difficult to assess, as differing target ratios, population densities, and reporting schools within the data set create distinct contexts that may not be encapsulated in a single number. Since districts are required to report for all K-3 classrooms, average statewide class size ratios were calculated for grades kindergarten through third using a weighted average based on the representative district’s population per quarterly average daily enrollment report. This number has been averaged again across each quarter to determine the 2022-23 school year average class size ratio, rounded to whole numbers.

Weighted Statewide Average Class Ratios			
K	1	2	3
20	19	19	22

The chart below illustrates the average FY23 class size ratios for each grade within each district, for all ratios above 15.



Carson City School District

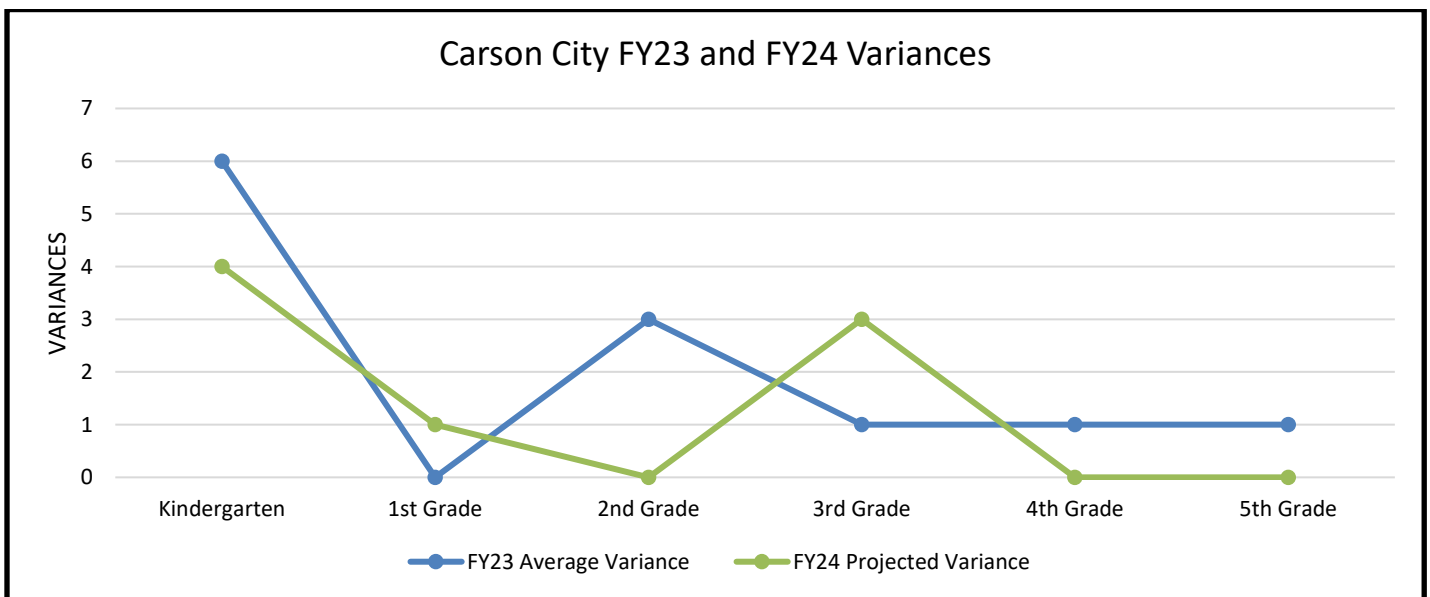
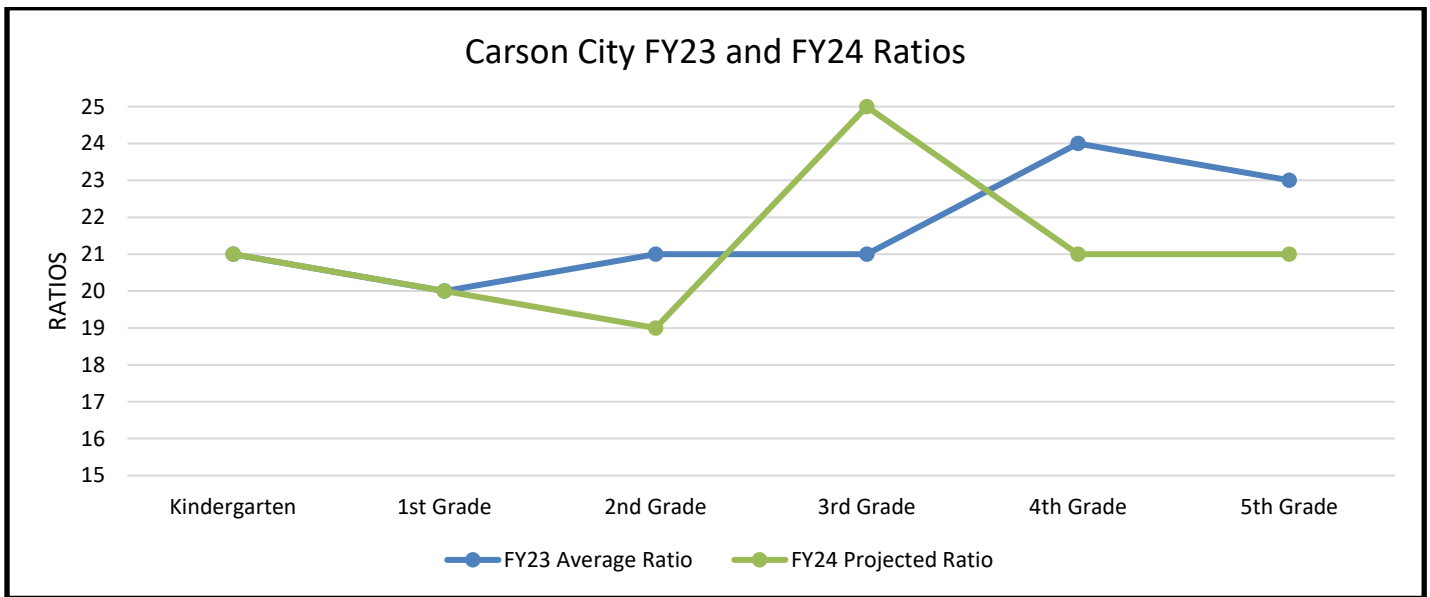
For the 2023-24 school year, Carson City School District (Carson City SD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 14, 2023, and ending May 30, 2024. Throughout FY23, Carson City SD had an average student enrollment of 7,217, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

In their 2023-24 CSR Plan, Carson City SD reported a focus on teacher recruitment and retention, to include implementing competitive salary and benefit packages to attract and retain high-quality teachers. This will include financial incentives, including a new program offering reimbursement for alternative route to licensure (ARL) ARL educators. Carson City SD reported that their ARL program has resulted in the hiring of 15 teachers. They further reported a focus on professional development opportunities for teaching staff, and a mentoring program for new teachers to support them during their first two years in the classroom, enabling them to enhance their skills and advance within the district. Another strategy cited was reducing zone variances by being proactive in regularly reviewing zone areas to ensure students are assigned to the correct schools based on geographical location, allowing the school to adapt to evolving needs and maintain manageable class sizes. Carson City SD plans to prioritize lower class sizes for first through third grade and substitute teacher management by allocating resources and prioritize funding for early education, particularly for students from the first through third grade, and keeping a dedicated pool of quality substitute teachers to ensure that when regular teachers are absent, students continue to receive high-quality instruction without being merged into larger classes.

Carson City SD outlined their strategies to mitigate the impact of class sizes by allocating one paraprofessional per two kindergarten classes to provide extra support to classroom teachers and work with individual students or

small groups, helping them develop foundational skills and a more personalized learning experience. Carson City will also utilize reading interventionists and instructional coaches. All elementary schools have a reading interventionist to help improve students' literacy skills by working with those who struggle with reading. Each site will also have a Title 1 funded instructional coach who will play a valuable role in helping teachers enhance their instructional practices, provide professional development, offer guidance on effective teaching strategies, and collaborate with teachers to improve classroom management.

Finally, Carson City will continue to monitor their fluctuating enrollment numbers and potentially adjust staffing patterns as necessary. They have set their goal to reduce average class sizes in elementary schools by allocating additional teaching staff to schools with the highest-class sizes, implement a targeted hiring plan to recruit more qualified educators, explore innovative scheduling options, regularly collect, and analyze class elementary schools class size data, review standardized test scores and academic performances, and regularly review teacher recruitment efforts and modify as need. They emphasized the importance of open dialogue with teachers, parents, and the community to ensure that class size reduction efforts align with the needs and expectations of students and educators.

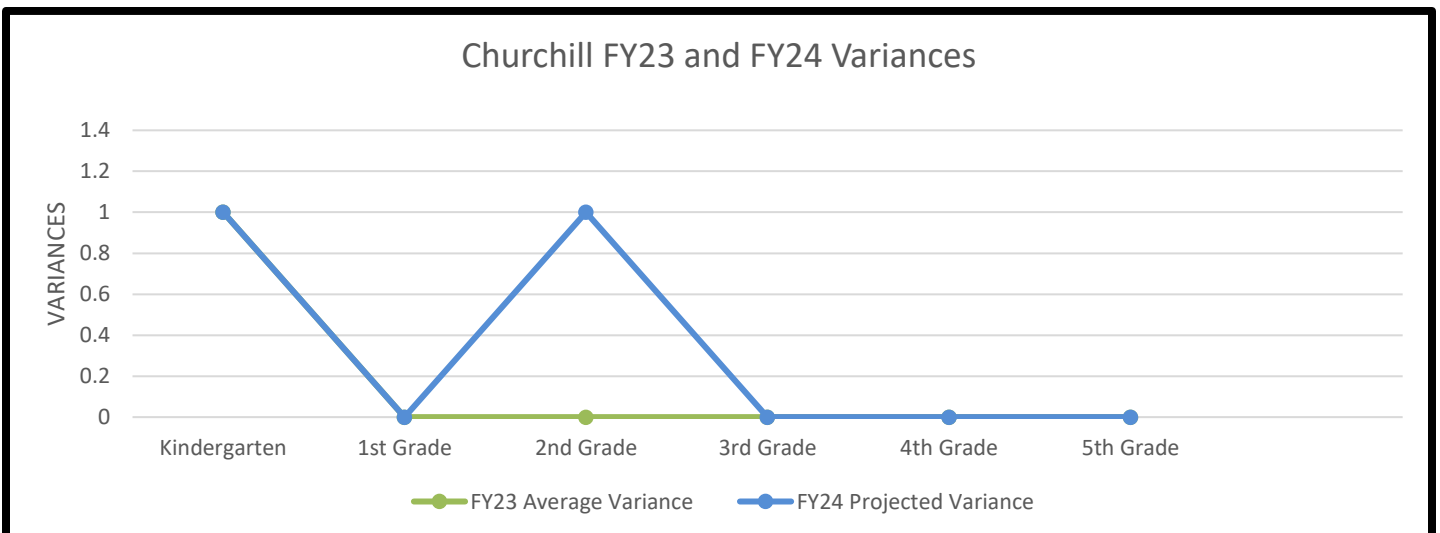
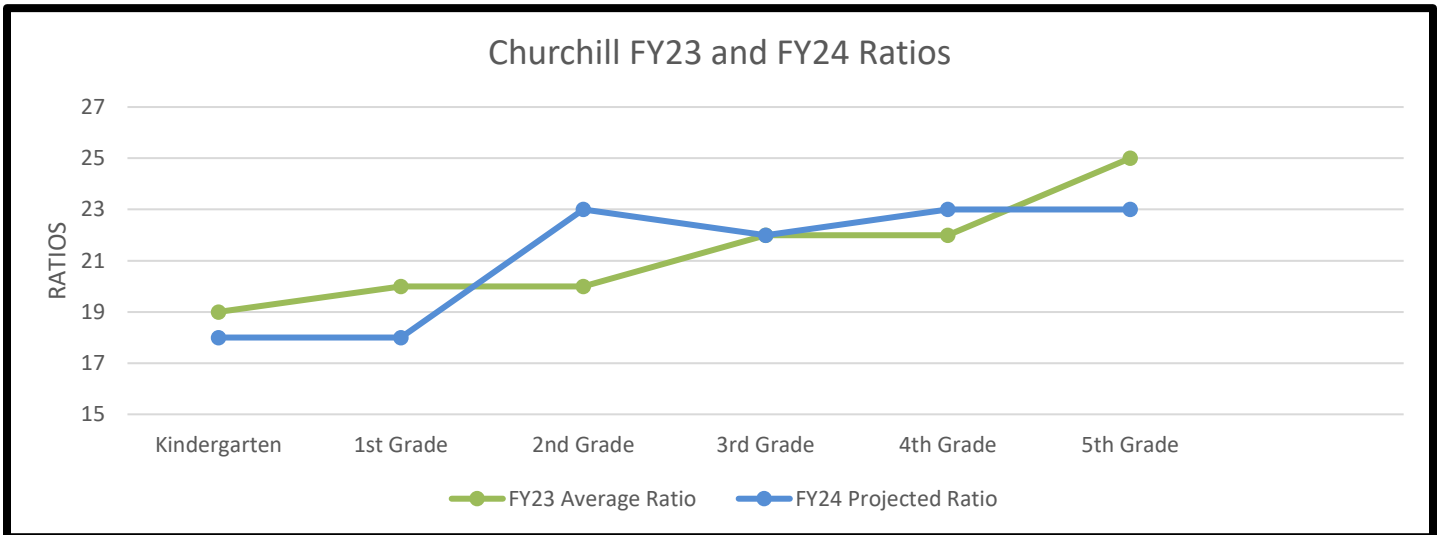


Churchill County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Churchill County School District (Churchill CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 14, 2023, and ending May 24, 2024. Throughout FY23, Churchill CSD had an average student enrollment of 3,208, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

In their CSR Plan, Churchill CSD reported their strategies to reduce class sizes by focusing efforts on recruitment by hosting regional and local recruiting fairs, working with local hiring agencies, and recruiting local retirees to fill vacant positions. They will also utilize classroom instructional strategies such as team teaching in all three elementary schools and have teachers use their special/elective time to assist and support instruction. Agreements have been reached with bargaining units to support temporary, direct transfers, as needed to assist and support critical needs.

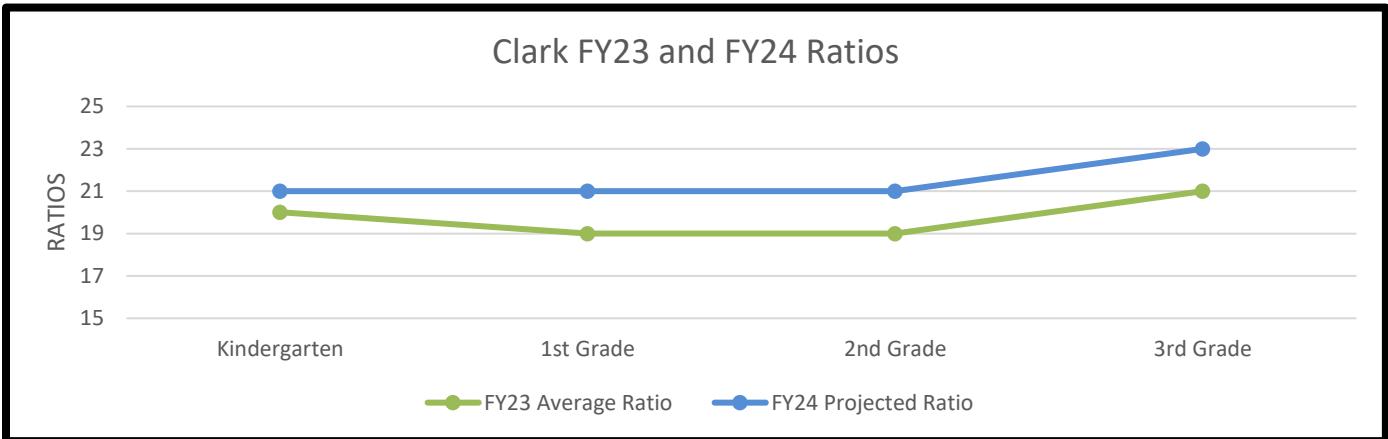
Churchill CSD has implemented various strategies to mitigate the impact of class sizes including enhancing recruitment, team teaching, instructional support, adjusting negotiated agreements to allow improved compensation, and re-evaluating the facility design of the district. In addition, schools have adjusted their master schedules to maximize teacher availability to cover and assist in classrooms. Churchill is utilizing federal and state funds to improve teacher salaries to help with recruitment and longevity.



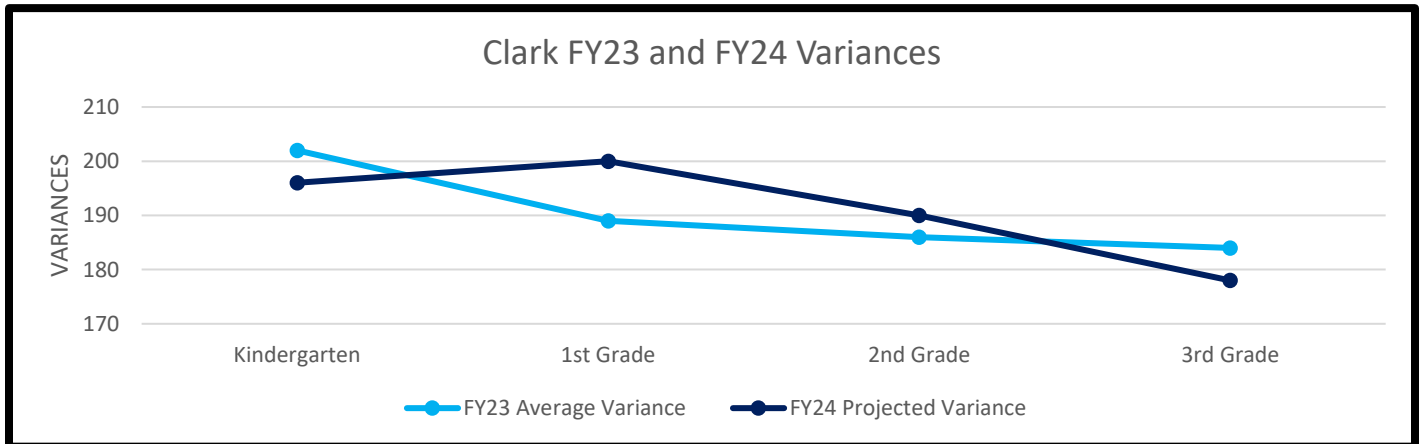
Clark County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Clark County School District (Clark CSD) applied for a traditional calendar beginning August 7, 2023, and ending May 20, 2024. Throughout FY23, CCSD had an average student enrollment of 295,305, requiring them to apply for a regular class size reduction program for FY24.

When categorical CSR funding was wrapped into the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan, Clark CSD maintained their CSR funding support for each elementary school. Clark CSD has schools submit projected staffing and budget plans to their Region Superintendent Office, Budget Office, and HR Office for review. Schools completed analyses of each school’s projected staffing plan with particular focus on first, second, and third grades. Funding allocations are designed with particular class size reduction (CSR) ratios factored in, and awarded funding is normally sufficient to hire educators to achieve the identified CSR ratio. In the event a school requires additional funding, a school has the ability to request additional support. In addition to the general fund support, weighted funding supports approximately 120 educators, and Clark CSD’s federal Title I appropriations support hiring another 120 teachers grades 1-3. In fiscal year 2024 (FY24), Clark CSD anticipates experiencing a similar level of CSR support as seen in FY2023, along with additional support from the Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) grant.



In general, CCSD projects increased ratios for kindergarten through third grade from FY23. The biggest increases would be in the first and second grade going from the average of 19:1 in FY23 to 21:1 in FY24. Their third grade would have a similar increase from 21:1 in the previous year to FY23 to a 23:1 ratio in FY24. CCSD projects an increase in class-size variances for first and second grades, however, project decreases in kindergarten and third.

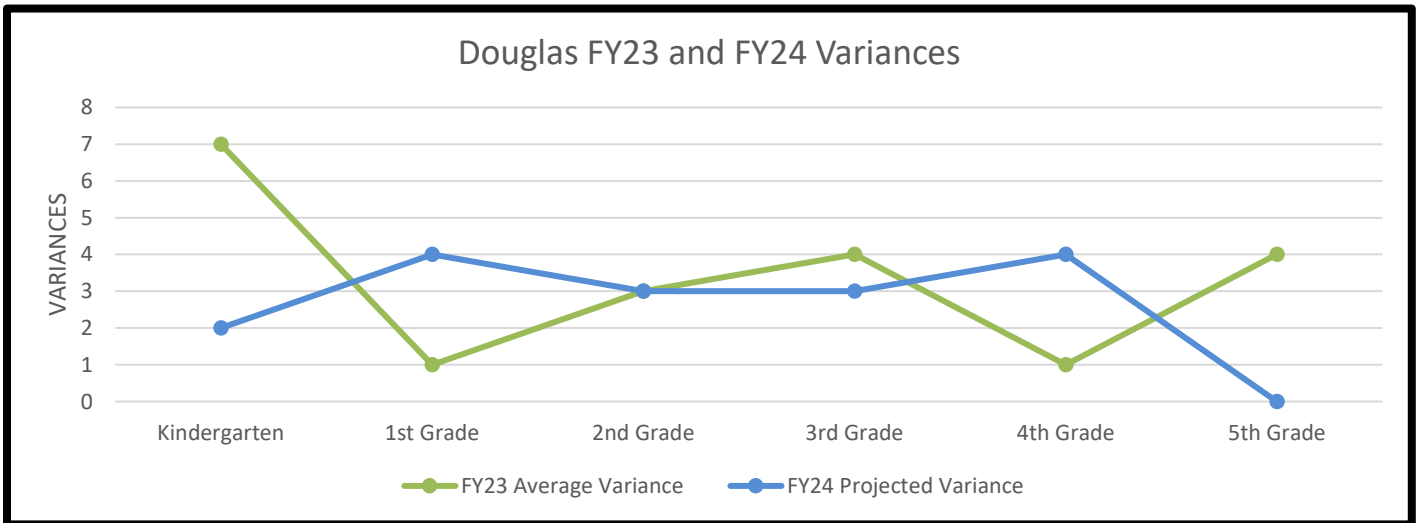
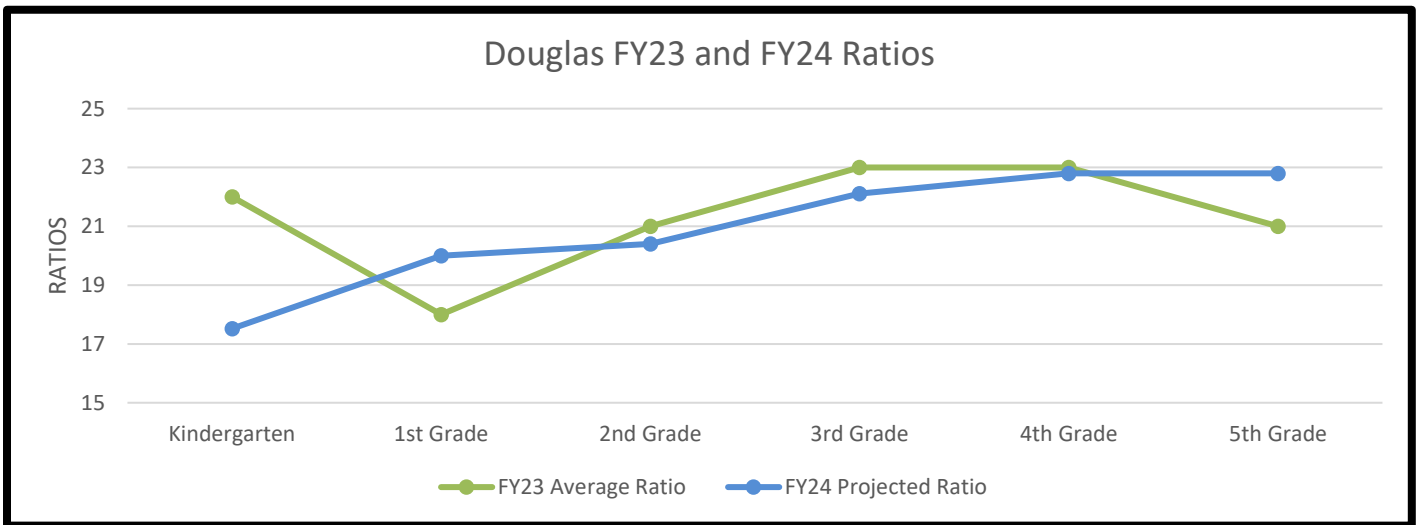


Douglas County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Douglas County School District (Douglas CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 21, 2023, and ending June 14, 2024. Throughout FY23, Douglas CSD had an average student enrollment of 5,185, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

Douglas CSD reported that they prioritize staffing in their lowest performing schools before progressing through schools with increased performance. Douglas is also working to reduce the need for variances and multi-grade classrooms when fiscally feasible. Additional efforts include a minimum part-time assistant principal and learning strategists assigned to all elementary schools; a full-time assistant principal and reading teachers at each Title I school; 4.5-hour kindergarten paraeducators in all kindergarten classrooms; and the continuation of art, music, and physical education specials at all elementary schools.

Douglas CSD is projecting growth in first and fifth grade ratios, while anticipating a drop in kindergarten, second, third, and fourth grade with the most significant decline being in the kindergarten ratios from 22:1 in FY23 to 17.5:1 in FY24.



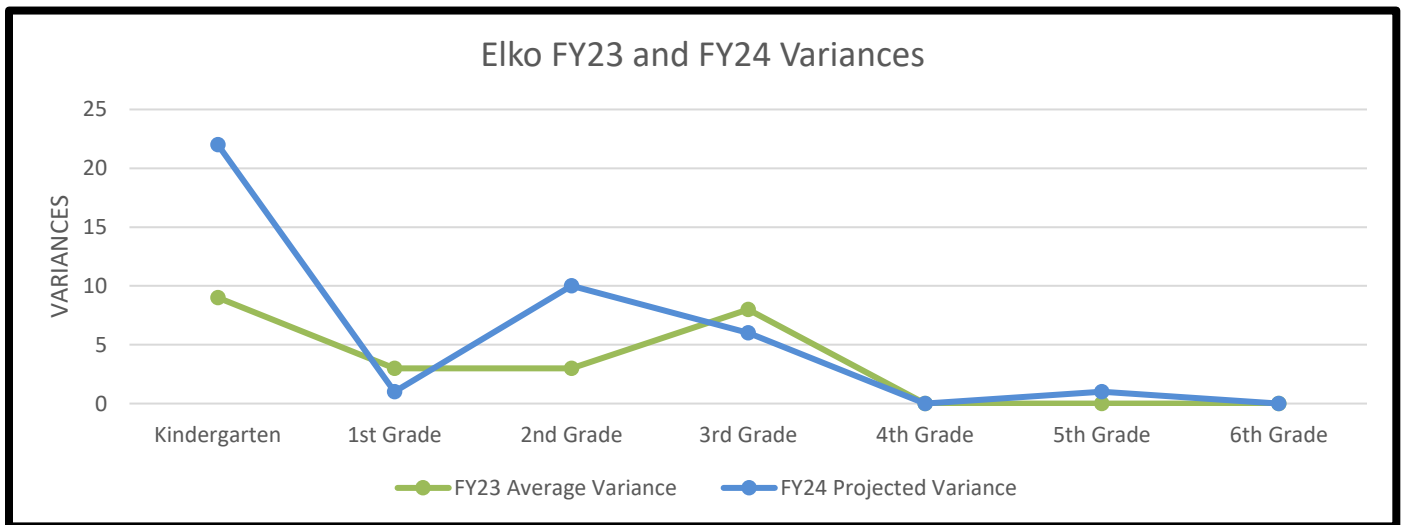
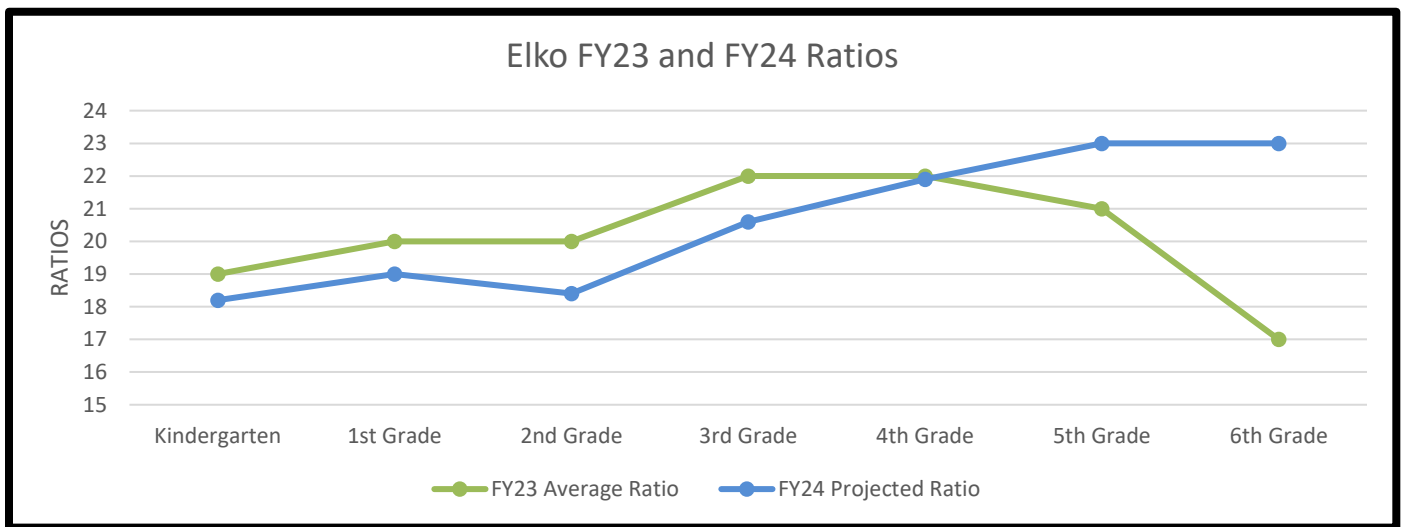
Elko County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Elko County School District (Elko CSD) applied for alternative calendars for various schools beginning July 31, 2023, and ending June 12, 2024 (Battle Born Youth Challenge Academy) and beginning August 28, 2023, and ending June 6, 2024 (District Schools). Throughout FY23, Elko CSD had an average student enrollment of 9,812, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction

program for FY24.

Elko cited their strategies to reduce class sizes as focused on teacher recruitment. They have designated all elementary licensed positions as critical needs in an effort to recruit and employ licensed professionals that are currently retired back into the classrooms. The district sent representation to career fairs during the Spring of 2022 as well as online recruiting platforms to fill staffing needs in Utah, South Dakota, Nevada, and Montana. Elko CSD has recently developed and implemented a new strategic plan to improve numerous facets of their educational institution. One of the key facets of this plan is student and staff wellness that can be linked to class size ratios. Elko has cited their goal to reduce the number of variances under the alternate plan by 10% for FY24.

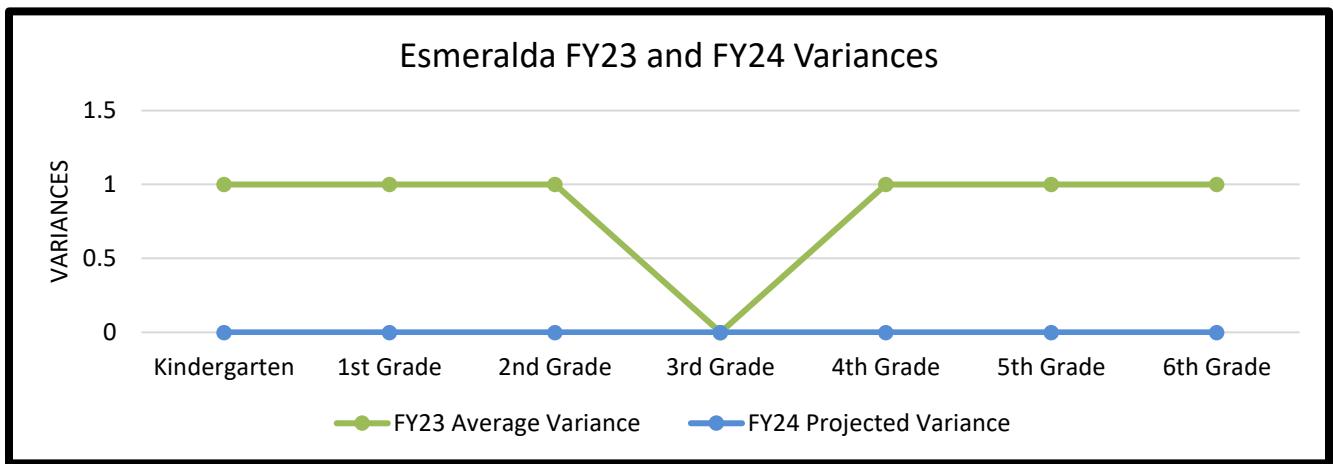
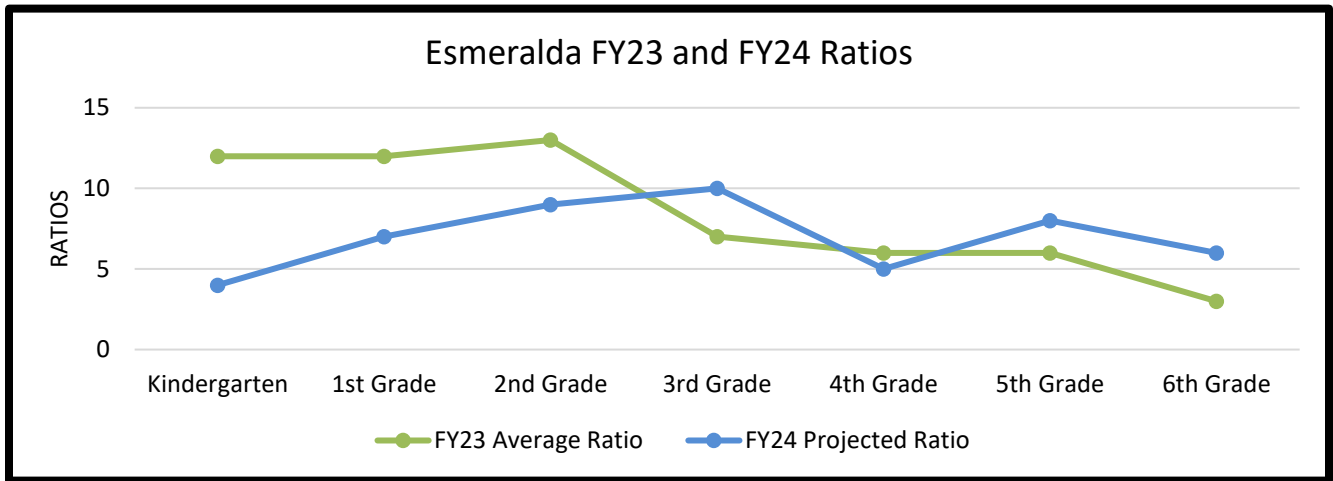
Elko CSD projects growth in fifth and sixth grade ratios, with significant decreases in second and third grade and minor decreases in kindergarten and first grade. Their projected variances remain stable for fourth grade. Elko CSD noted that projected variances were based on the number of open teaching positions yet to be filled at the time of submission.



Esmeralda County School District

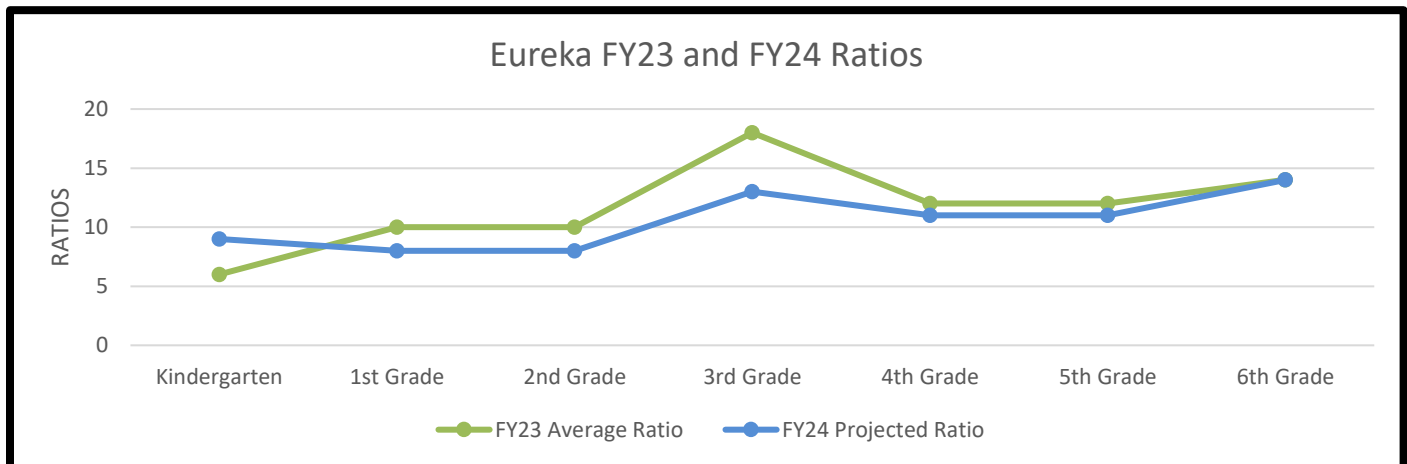
For the 2023-24 school year, Esmeralda County School District (Esmeralda CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 21, 2023, and ending May 30, 2024. Throughout FY23, Esmeralda CSD had an average student enrollment of 77 students, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24. Esmeralda CSD meets target class size ratios and does not require strategies to reduce class

sizes for FY24.



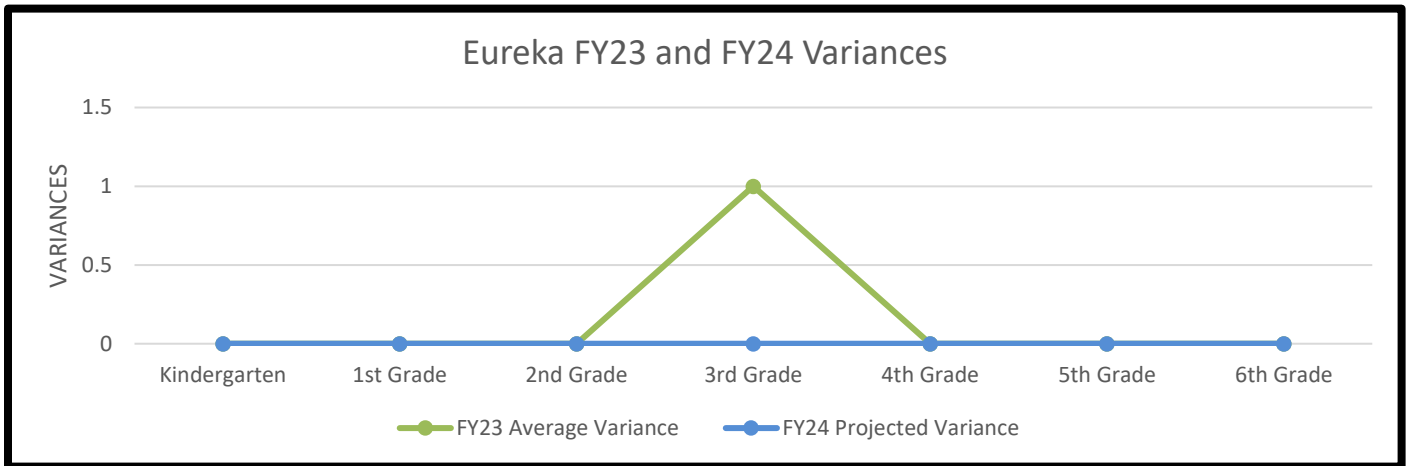
Eureka County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Eureka County School District (Eureka CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 21, 2023, and ending May 31, 2024. Throughout FY23, Eureka CSD had an average student enrollment of 324, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.



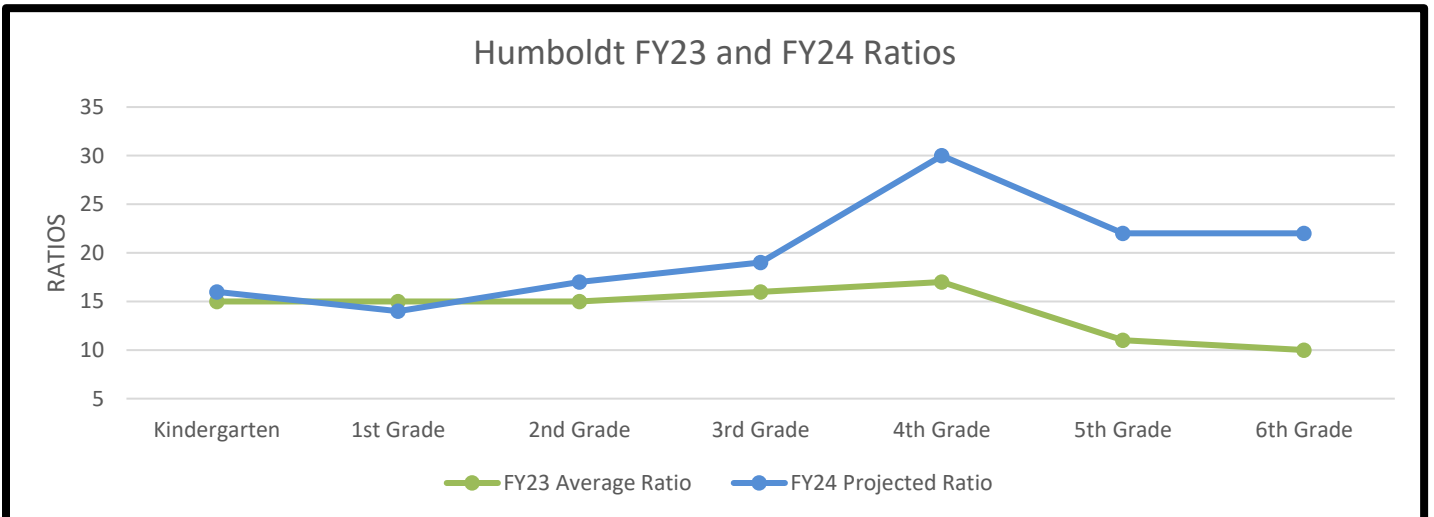
Eureka CSD projects growth in kindergarten, a significant drop for third grade, and minimal reductions in first, second, fourth and fifth grades. Eureka CSD will continue to monitor enrollments and withdrawals as they pertain to class size ratios and adjust staffing accordingly. They will have aids or other staff members in classrooms where they are needed in the management of class sizes. Eureka does not anticipate having to file

any variances for the 23-24 school year nor using funds for class size reduction.



Humboldt County School District

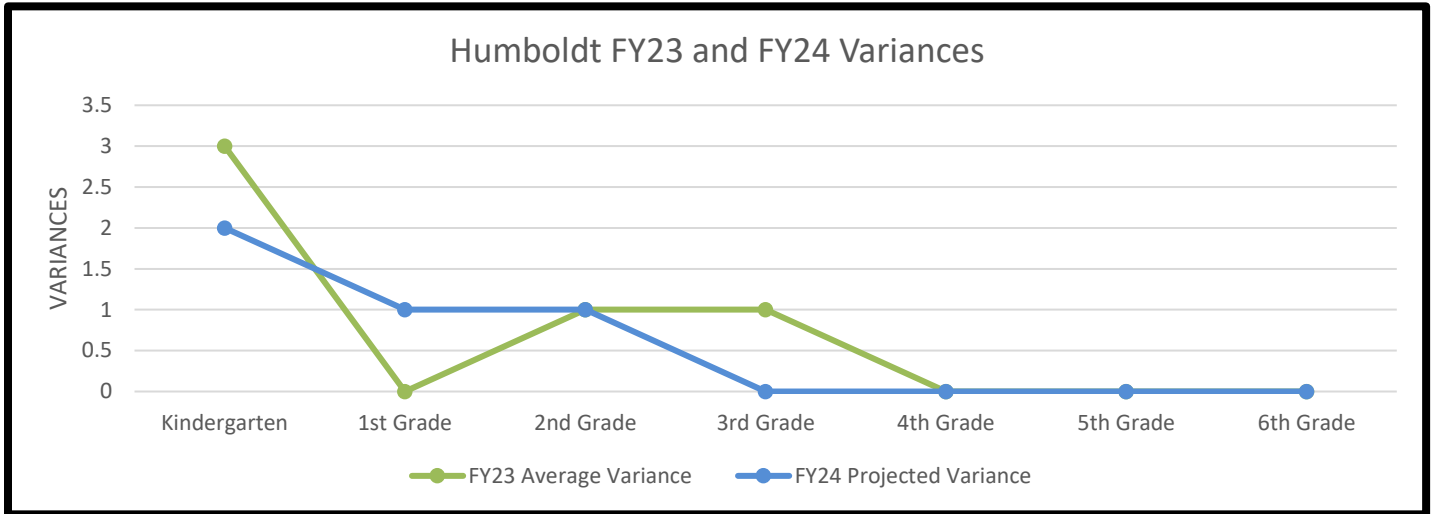
For the 2023-24 school year, Humboldt County School District (Humboldt CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 21, 2023, and ending June 6, 2024. Throughout FY23, Humboldt CSD had an average student enrollment of 3,196, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.



Humboldt CSD cited their strategies to reduce class sizes to include class configurations, recruitment efforts, and facility arrangements. In the area of class configurations, the district utilizes team teaching in certain grade levels, in which two staff members share students and provide instruction in different core elements. They have also made efforts to recruit and retain qualified teachers, including offering competitive salaries and benefits, providing hiring bonuses to new staff members, and providing professional development opportunities through a dedicated coach and literacy specialists.

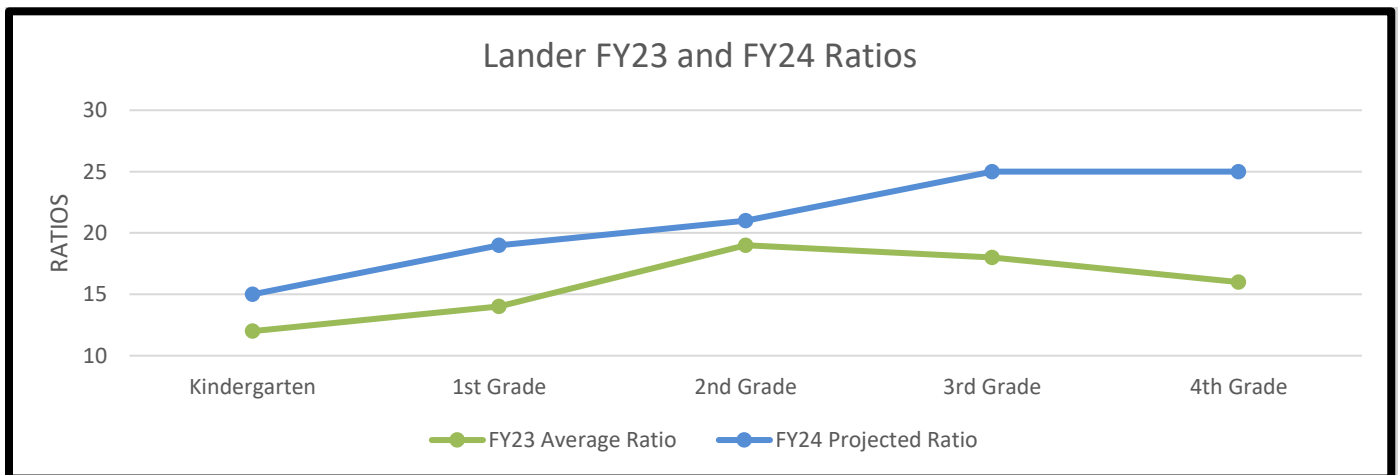
Humboldt CSD also outlines their strategies to mitigate the impact of class sizes by providing peer mentors in which older students are paired with younger students to provide academic and social support, literacy coaches to work with teachers and improve their literacy instruction, multi-lingual coaches to work with teachers to support multilingual students, and administrative supports to provide support to teachers in a variety of ways including providing feedback, coaching, and resources. They will also provide a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for students who are struggling academically and put into place Response to Intervention (RTI) teams to develop and implement interventions for students who struggle both academically and behaviorally.

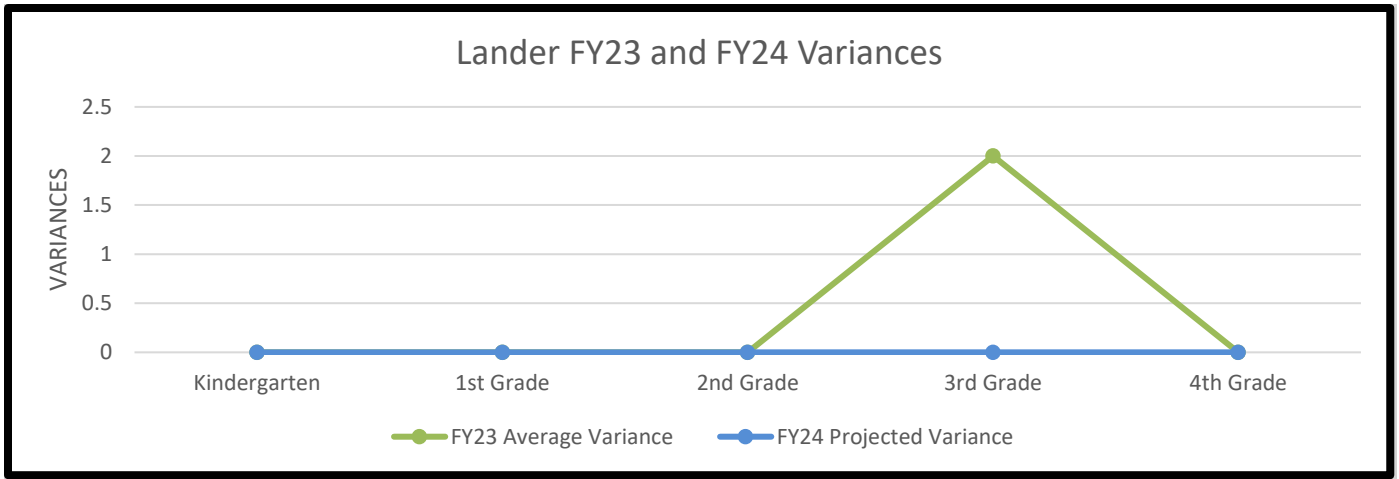
Humboldt CSD reported continued efforts to have all class sizes under the defined CSR thresholds, with the exception of kindergarten. To ensure all classes are filled with high quality and fully licensed personnel with an enhanced focus on the lowest performing school sites (1 and 2 star), Humboldt CSD cited plans to use funding for new educator salaries, recruitment efforts, coaching and mentoring, and additional support for personnel. Humboldt CSD projected overall growth, with a significant increase in fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Humboldt is also projecting a minimal drop in first grade. Variances are expected to remain relatively stable.



Lander County School District

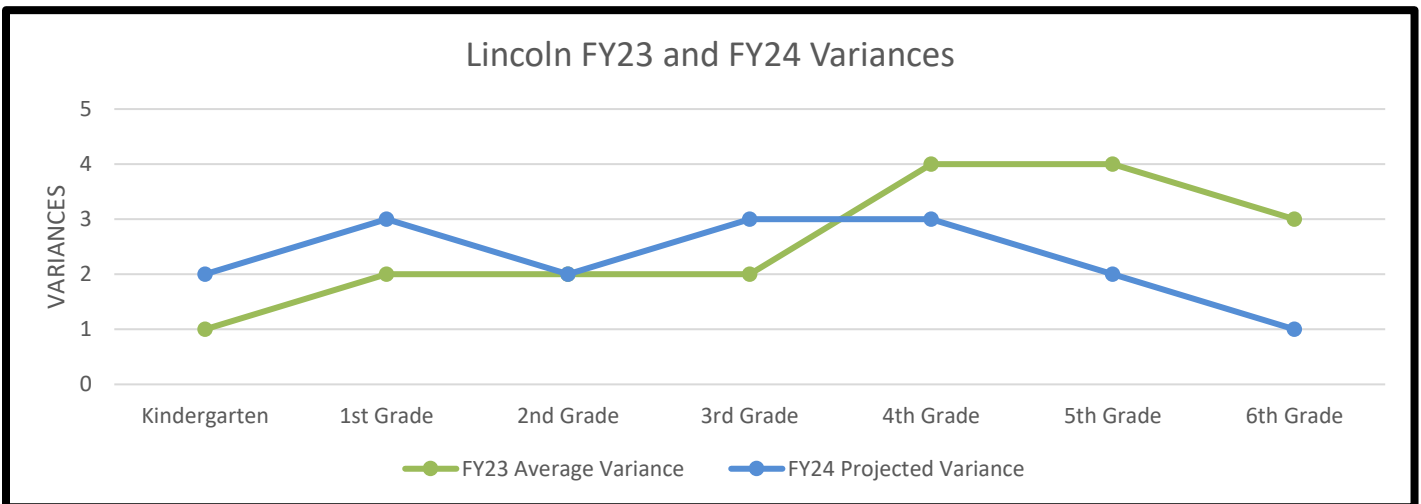
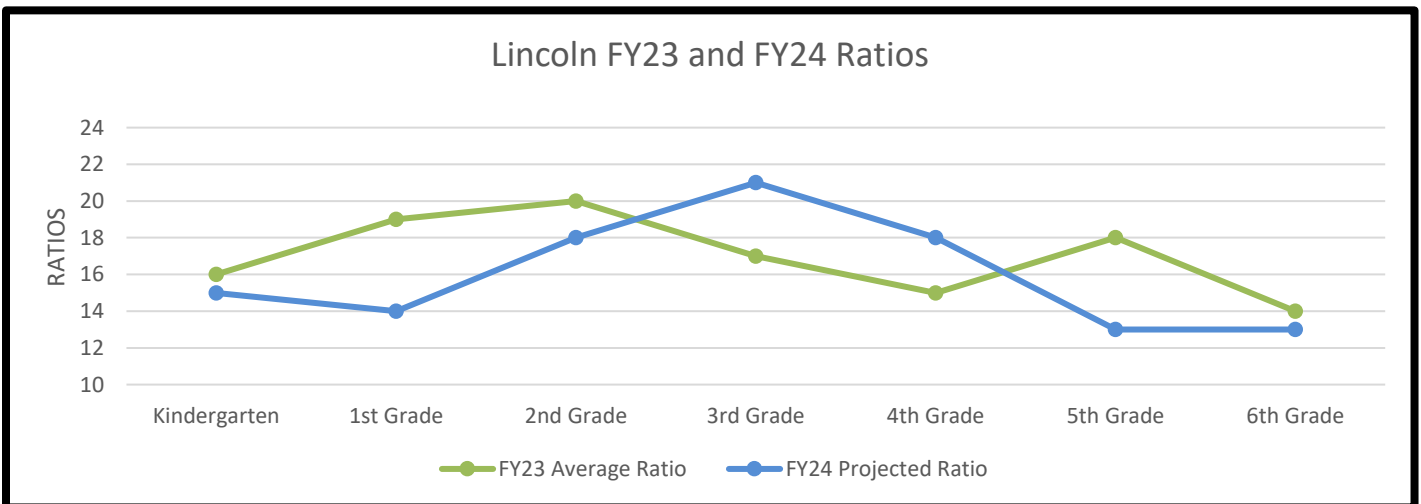
For the 2023-24 school year, Lander County School District (Lander CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 17, 2023, and ending May 30, 2024. Throughout FY23, Lander CSD had an average student enrollment of 1003, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24. Lander CSD projected growth across all grades, with the largest growth projected in third and fourth grade. Variances are projected to remain stable. In the last quarter of FY23, Lander CSD reported no students exceeding the class size ratio. Lander cited that the school district is sufficiently staffed to meet recommended class size ratios and plans to continue their current staffing strategy to maintain this best-practices model.





Lincoln County School District

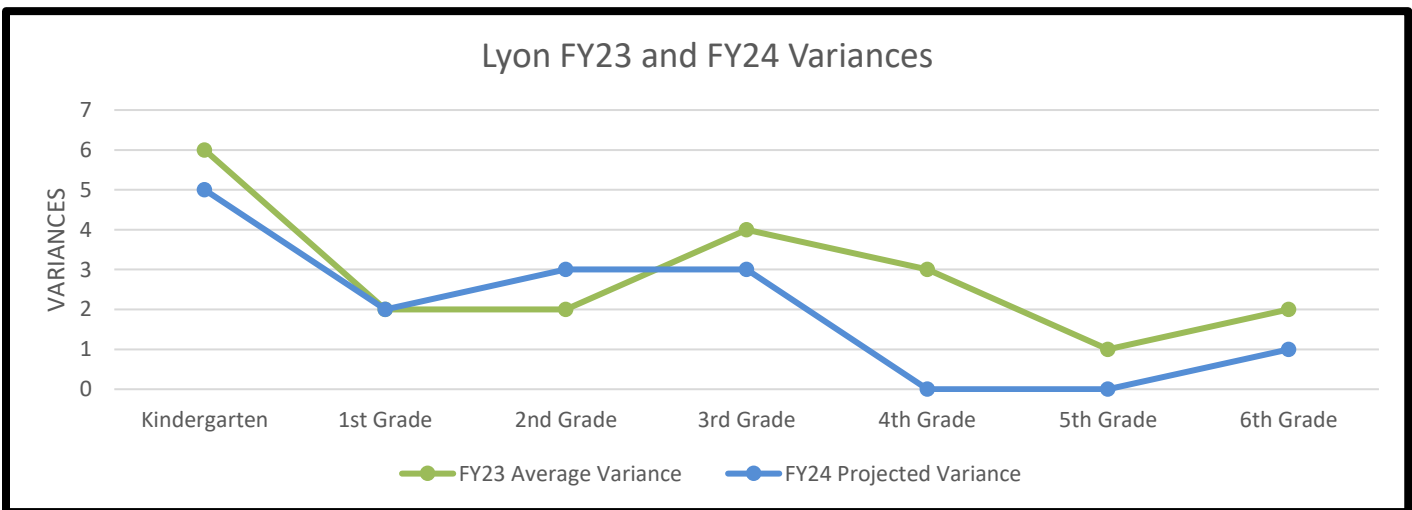
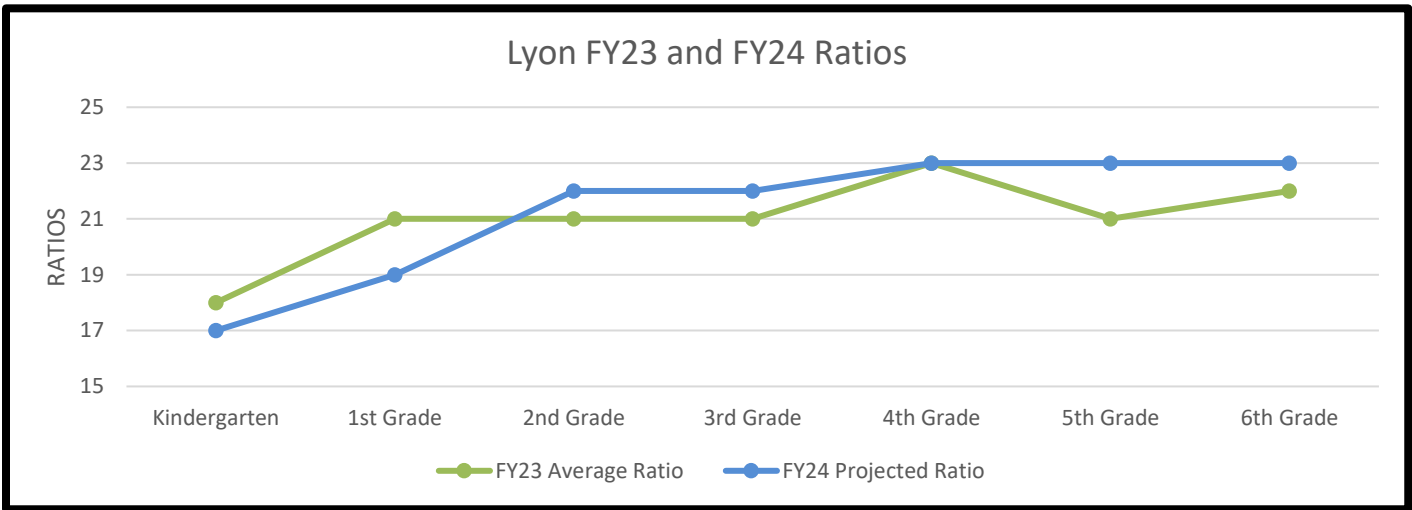
For the 2023-24 school year, Lincoln County School District (Lincoln CSD) applied for alternative calendars for various schools beginning August 15, 2023, and ending May 23, 2024. Throughout FY23, Lincoln CSD had an average student enrollment of 888, making them eligible to apply for a regular class size reduction program for FY24; however, Lincoln CSD elected to report under a regular class size reduction program for K-3 with elective reporting for 4-6 under alternative plan ratios.



Lincoln CSD plans on providing further support to instructors by using class size reduction funds for educator salaries and reassessing class sizes where required. Lincoln further plans to make sure all teachers are supported with a paraprofessional, especially during core curriculum time which will allow small group instruction to better support students. Lincoln CSD projects growth in third and fourth grades and is projecting a significant reduction for the first and fifth grades and minor drops kindergarten, second, sixth grades. Lincoln is also projecting growth in variances for kindergarten, first, and third grades with reductions for fourth, fifth, and sixth grades while the second grade remains stable.

Lyon County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Lyon County School District (Lyon CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning September 5, 2023, and ending June 14, 2024. Throughout FY23, Lyon CSD had an average student enrollment of 9,069, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

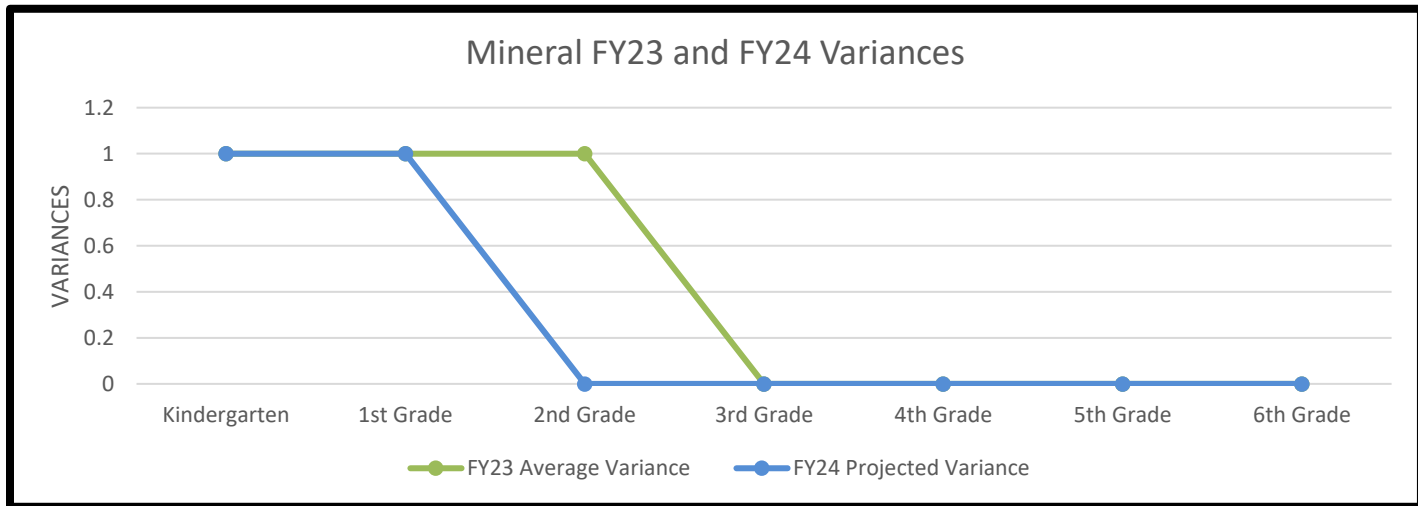
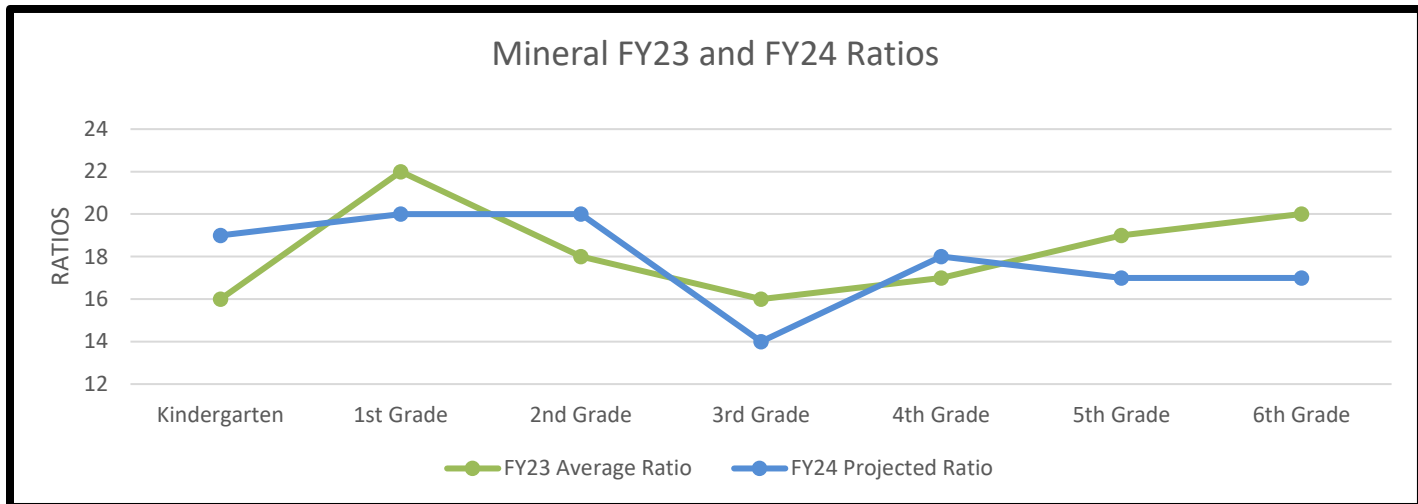


Lyon CSD cited their strategies to reduce class sizes as reviewing the average daily attendance on a quarterly basis to determine if allocations should be modified, moved to a different grade level, or added to school allocations. If ratios continue to increase, allocation modifications may be implemented which could mean movement within and among schools or an additional allocation. Student enrollment is monitored, and discussions occur regularly with school principals regarding allocations. Lyon CSD reported a goal to reduce the sizes of classes in the district to achieve lower pupil-to-teacher ratios in classrooms to have class sizes aligned to the CSR regular plan. They also plan to continue allocating funds to reduce class sizes across K-6 grade with general funded positions as well as state and federal grant funded positions to support recruitment and retention of teaching staff. Lyon CSD projects growth across second through sixth grade, with the fourth

grade remaining stable and minimal drops for kindergarten and first grade. They are also projecting variances to remain relatively stable, with minor decreases in kindergarten, third, and sixth grades with a slight increase in the second grade and remaining stable for the first grade.

Mineral County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Mineral County School District (Mineral CSD) applied for alternative calendars for various schools beginning August 21, 2023, and ending June 5, 2024. Throughout FY23, Mineral CSD had an average student enrollment of 572, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

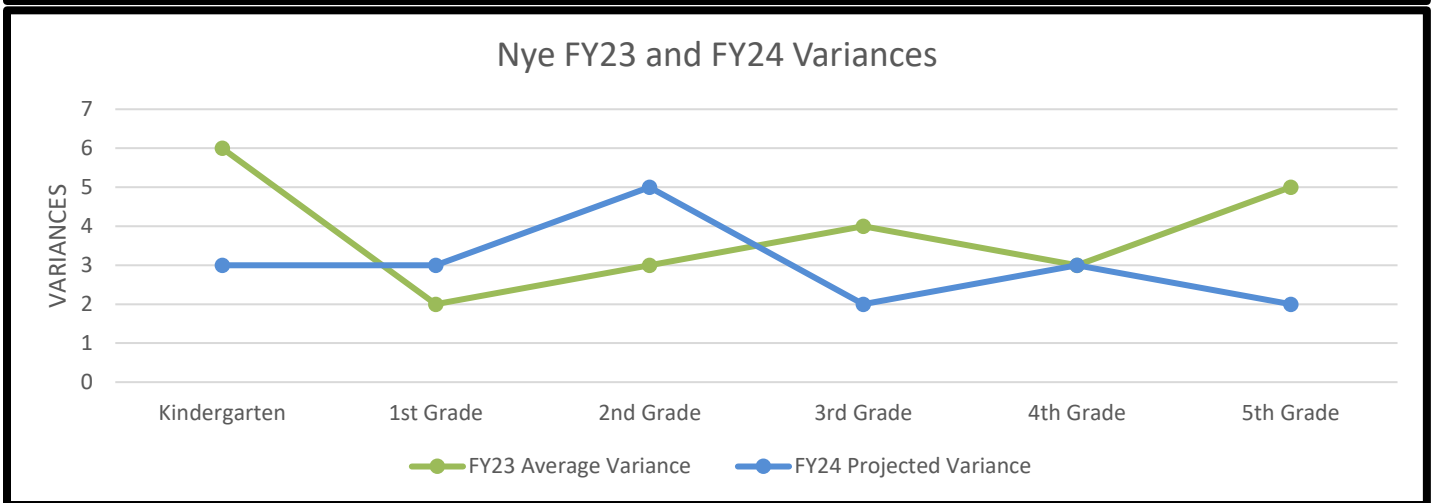
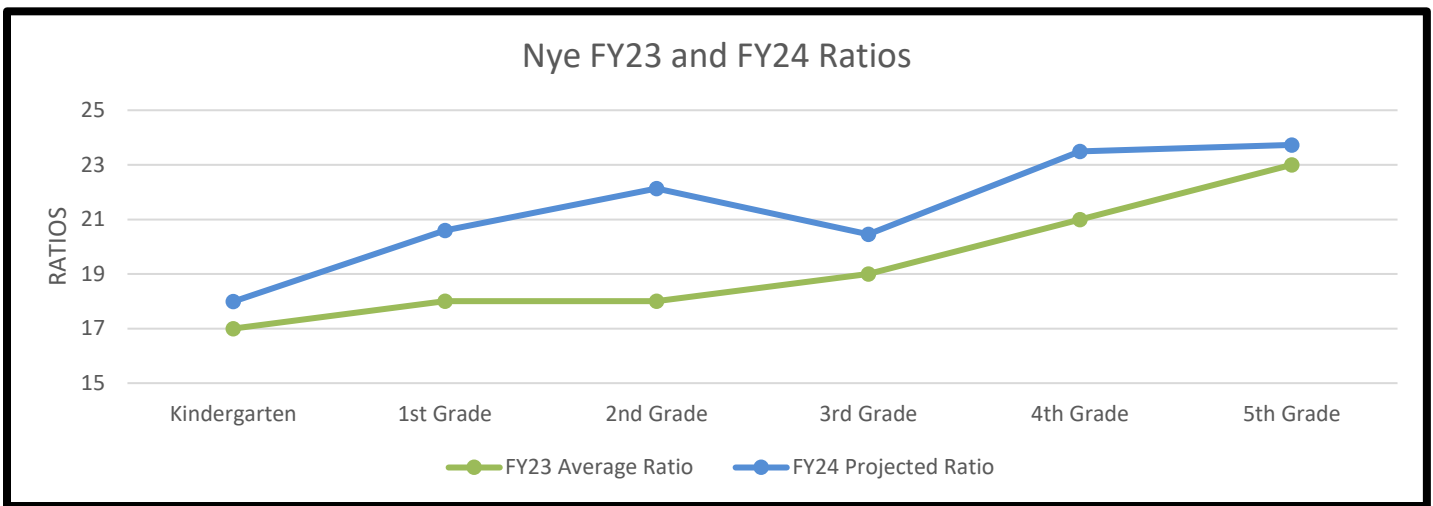


Mineral CSD has developed a strategic 18-month action plan, including reducing class sizes, to include identifying positions that are immediately needed to implement the plan, and to create and implement a comprehensive plan to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers, staff, and administrators that reflect the diversity of the students. The plan will also review and update position descriptions, responsibilities, performance criteria, evaluations, and feedback cycles at all levels to align with the district's values and priorities in collaboration with bargaining units. Finally, the action plan will look to strengthen data systems to determine the root cause of turnover and complete an audit of existing and needed positions for future recruitment and hiring, and ensure hiring processes are transparent and include representative stakeholders such as students, teachers, and parents from the school where candidates plan to work. Mineral CSD has partnered with The New Teacher Project (TNTP) to work with staff, community members, parents, and students to develop a new vision to guide the work of the district and design an advisory team to review data to find the district's strengths and areas to improve.

Mineral CSD projects increases for kindergarten, second, and fourth grades and a reduction for first, third, fifth, and with the sixth grade being largest projected reduction. They also project variances across these grades to remain stable.

Nye County School District

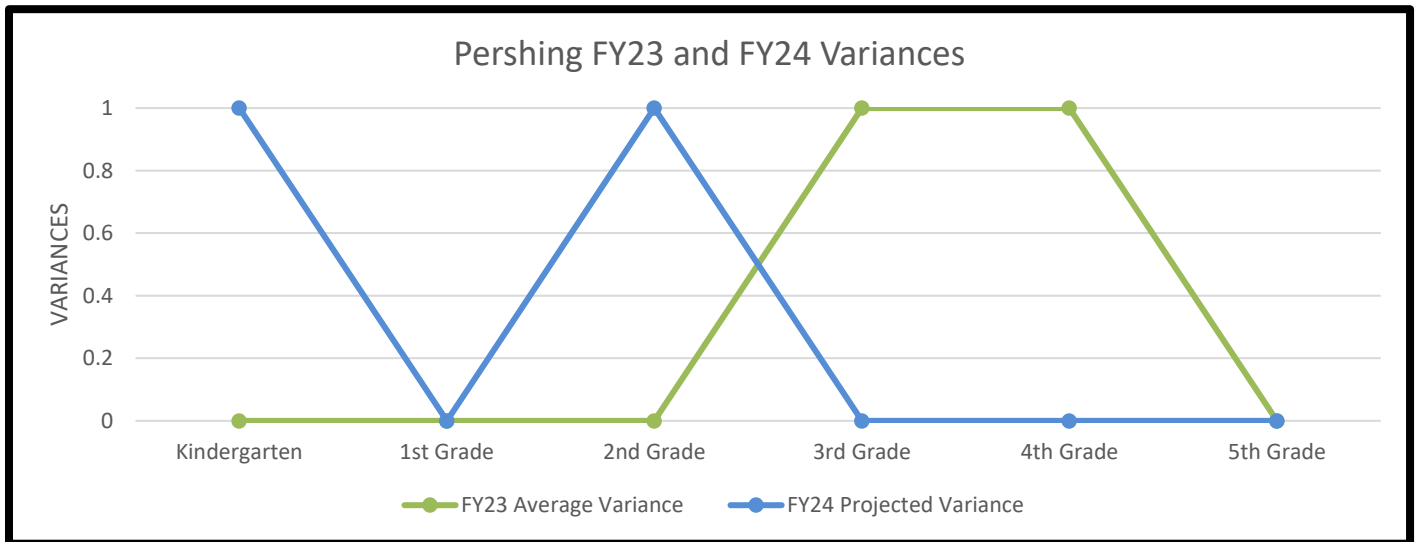
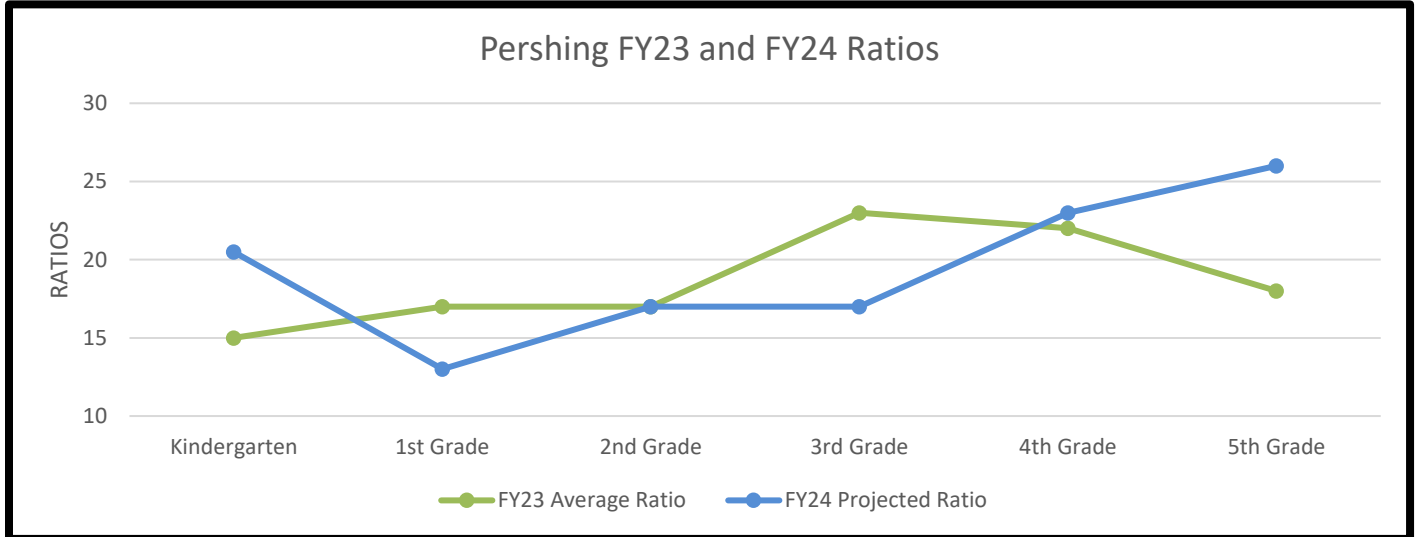
For the 2023-24 school year, Nye County School District (Nye CSD) applied for both an alternative and traditional calendar for various schools beginning August 8, 2023, and ending May 23, 2024. Throughout FY23, Nye CSD had an average student enrollment of 5,602, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24. Nye CSD reported adding six additional elementary classroom teaching positions to assist with reducing class size. They have also offered new financial hiring incentives to attract employees to rural areas. Nye has also placed education students as long-term substitutes while earning their degrees to minimize variances across all elementary schools. They have also added additional modular buildings to account for additional classrooms needs and negotiated significant pay raises for teachers for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years. Nye CSD projects growth across all grade ratios, with corresponding increases in variances for first and second grades. They also project decreases in variances for kindergarten, third, and fifth grades with the fourth grade remaining stable.



Pershing County School District

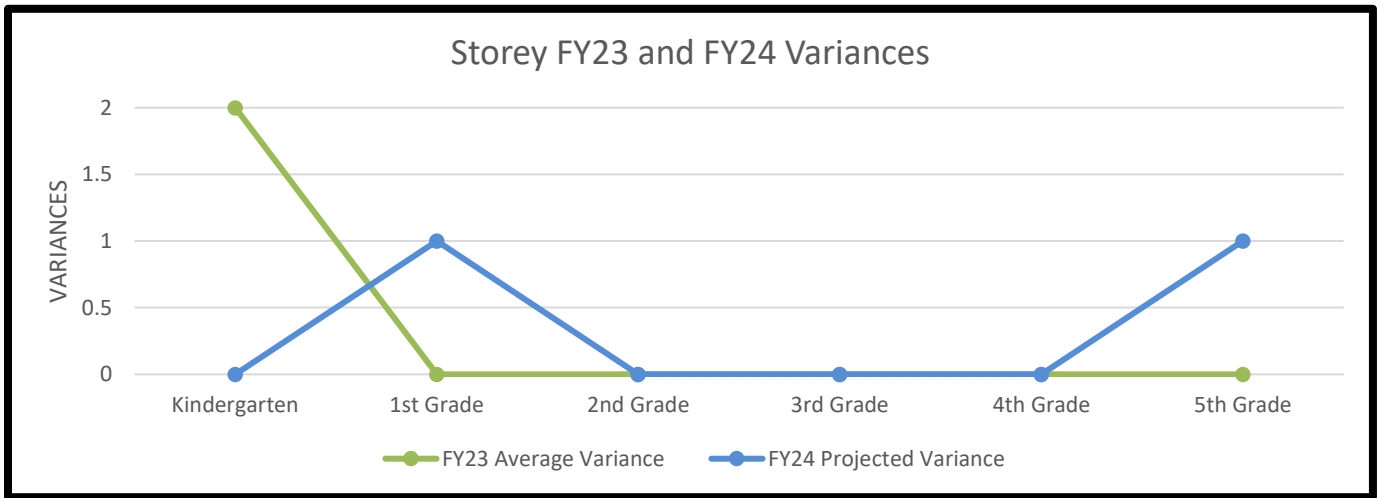
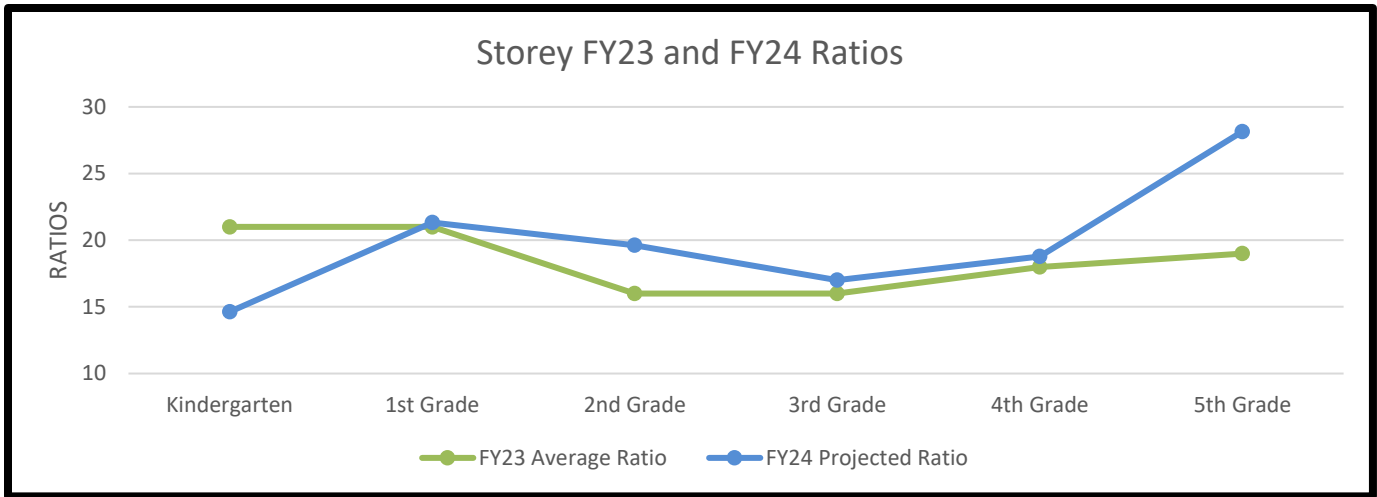
For the 2023-24 school year, Pershing County School District (Pershing CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 21, 2023, and ending May 30, 2024. Throughout FY23, Pershing CSD had an average student enrollment of 664, making them eligible to apply for a regular class size reduction program for FY24.

Pershing CSD reported that funding was not the main cause of the higher-than-expected ratios for class size reduction variances. The primary factor cited was the lack of available and qualified applicants for teaching positions. Pershing cites that they will monitor and adjust schedules of paraprofessionals as necessary to ensure appropriate support for students and continue recruiting efforts to fill staffing positions. Pershing CSD projects significant growth in kindergarten and fifth grade with a minimal increase in the fourth grade and significant decrease in the first and third grades. Variances are projected to remain steady with minimal increase projected for kindergarten and second grade.



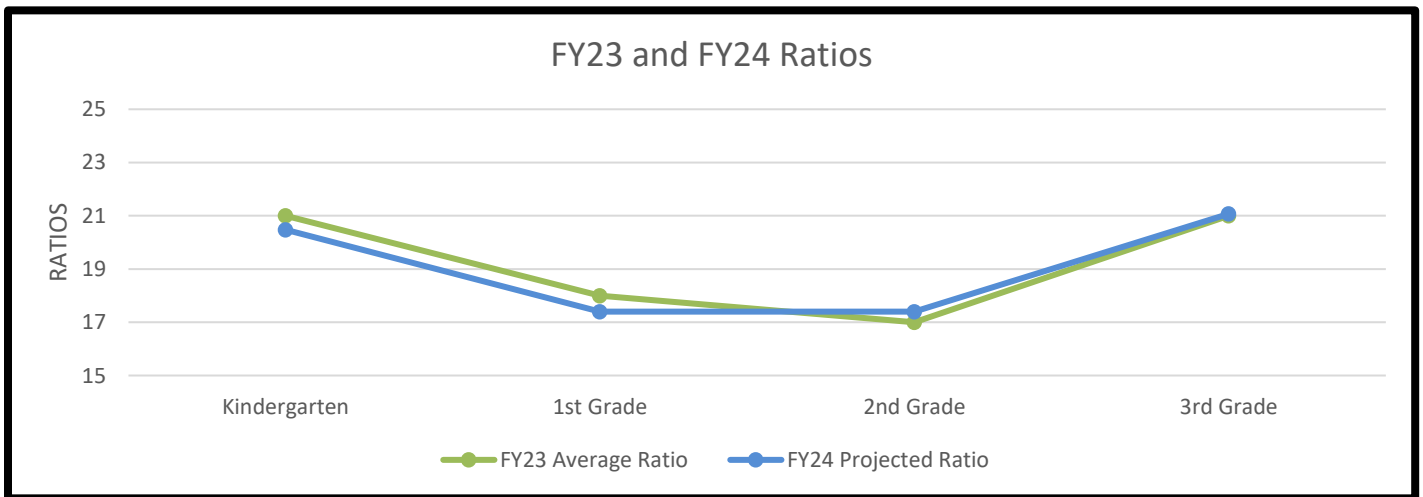
Storey County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Storey County School District (Storey CSD) applied for an alternative calendar beginning August 14, 2023, and ending May 24, 2024. Throughout FY23, Storey CSD had an average student enrollment of 412, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24. Storey CSD did not cite any strategies to reduce class sizes or goals for fiscal year 2023-24. Storey CSD projected significant growth in the second and fifth grades and minimal increases in the first, third, and fourth grade ratios, with a significant decrease in kindergarten. Variances are projected to remain relatively stable.



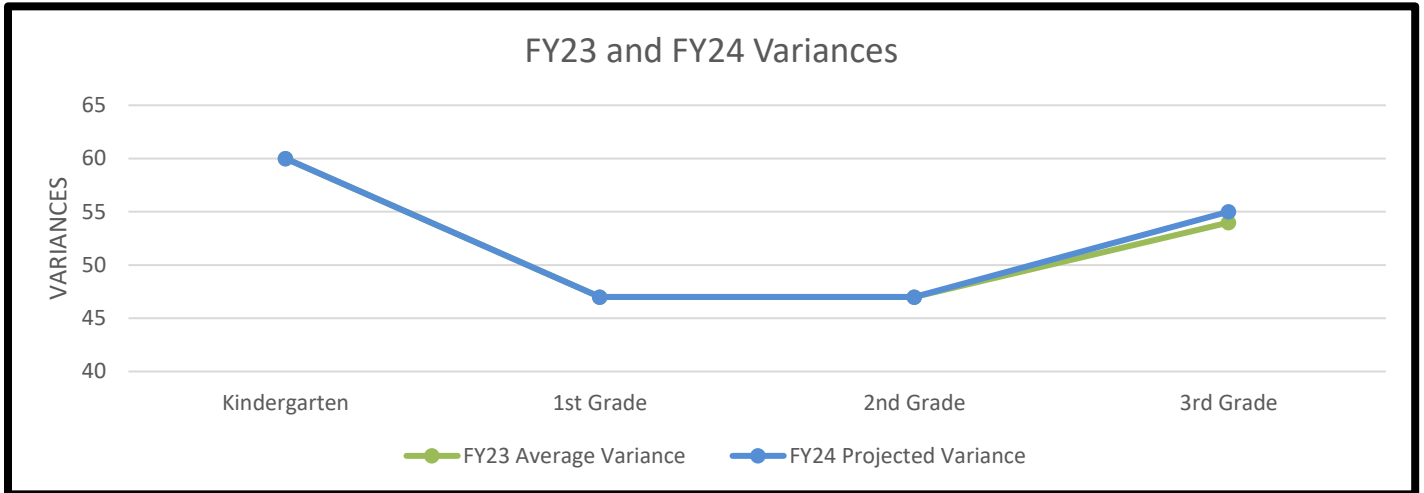
Washoe County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, Washoe County School District (Washoe CSD) applied for alternative calendars for various schools beginning August 14, 2023, and ending June 12, 2024. Throughout FY23, Washoe CSD had an average student enrollment of 60,642, requiring them to apply for a regular class size reduction program for FY24.



Washoe CSD describes three primary strategies to reduce class sizes that will consist of first; addressing teacher compensation to help fill positions. They have allocated \$61 million of new revenues to offer meaningful salary

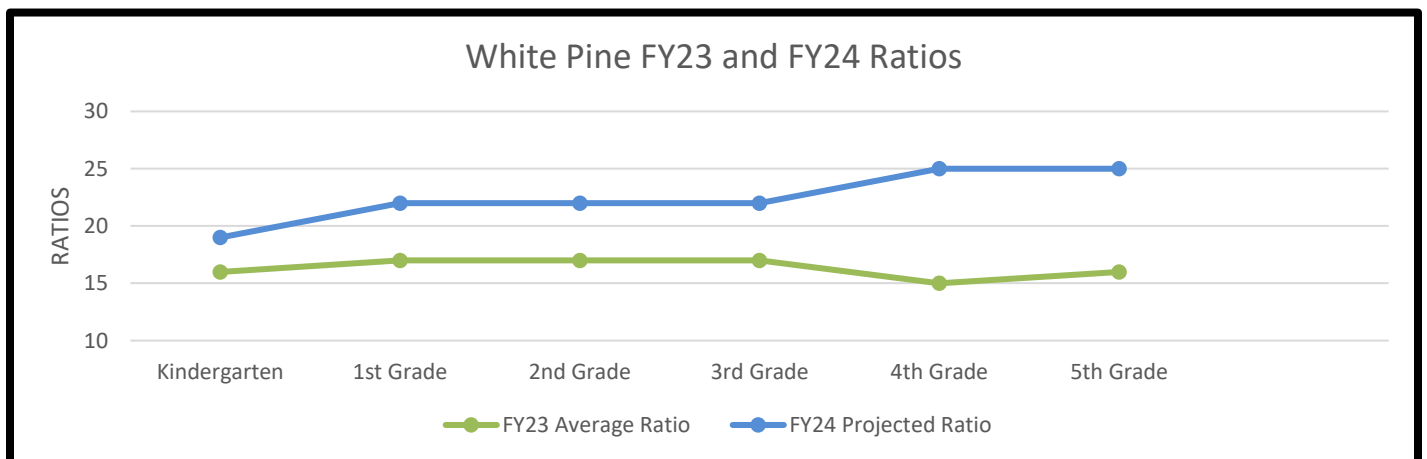
increases to attract teachers and assist in recruitment efforts. Secondly, Washoe CSD will explore using weighted funding to help address class sizes. And finally, Washoe CSD has expanded partnerships with the University of Nevada, Reno and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to establish a pipeline of candidates that more closely meets the demands of public education. Washoe CSD projects class size ratios to remain relatively stable with only minimal increases for second and third grade. Similarly, Washoe CSD projects minimal decreases for kindergarten and first grade. Washoe CSD is projecting 209 variances across grades K-3 for the 2023-24 school year.

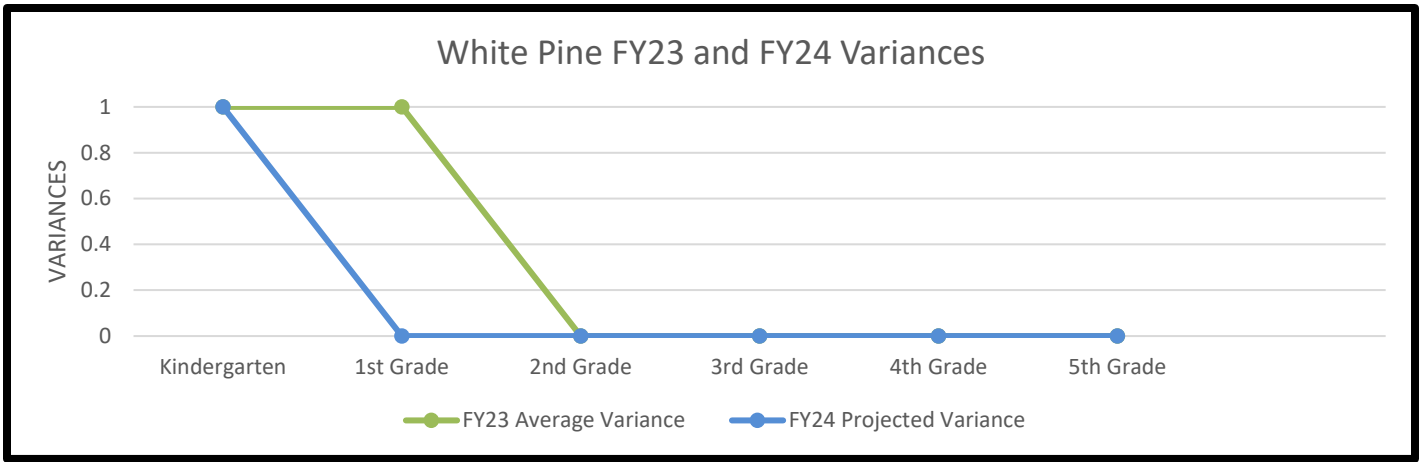


White Pine County School District

For the 2023-24 school year, White Pine County School District (White Pine CSD) applied for both regular and alternative calendars for various schools beginning August 16, 2023, and ending June 5, 2023. Throughout FY23, White Pine CSD had an average student enrollment of 1,263, making them eligible to apply for an alternative class size reduction program for FY24.

White Pine CSD reports that all classrooms comply barring kindergarten. They cite their intention to continue to recruit and retain teachers. The district plans to continue to use funds to support class sizes that are ideal for teaching and learning which includes increasing educators' salaries and providing mentoring and coaching support. White Pine CSD listed their goal to maintain the existing class sizes and will continue to assess and monitor these reports. White Pine CSD projects growth across all grades for the 2023-24 school year. Similarly, the projected variances remain stable across all grades.





Conclusion

NDE is committed to working with the State Board and districts to decrease class size ratios, particularly in high need schools, and to support class size reduction interventions. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Amelia Thibault via email at acthibault@doe.nv.gov or by phone at 775-687-2451.