

## **Facilities Planning**

The planning, design and construction of a new school building or improvements to be made to an existing school building shall follow a definite plan in which the responsibilities and relationships of all those participating are clearly understood and accepted. In addition to the Board, the professional staff and local citizens, the services of specialists shall be retained to secure their technical ability. Such specialists may include educational consultants, architects, engineers, contractors and builders.

A long-range school plant program shall serve as a guide for the acquisition of school sites, the erection of new buildings and the modernization and rehabilitation of existing buildings. Priority shall be placed upon the improvement of aging school facilities to enable them to continue to be used by the district.

The superintendent or designee and the selected architect, utilizing educational specifications, shall be responsible for the completed building design. The superintendent or designee shall also recommend policy and procedure and advise the Board on all phases of the building program and the long-range school plant program.

In determining whether a facility shall be retired for regular school purposes, the Board shall be guided by the following combination of factors:

1. Educational flexibility. Which school building is least adaptable for housing a modern and flexible educational program?
2. Neighborhood. Which school building is most isolated in terms of proximity to the residences of students?
3. Cost. Which school building represents the highest cost in terms of upkeep and maintenance?

If the Board determines to close a school, it shall first consider other uses the district might make of the building. In addition, the Board shall consider the historic value of any building and may take special action to provide for its preservation.

Adopted: 1971

Revised: January 1, 1977

Revised: January 21, 1992

Revised: May 22, 2001

CONTRACT REF: Negotiated Agreement, Article VII, Transfers and Vacancies,  
Section 7.2.2., Involuntary Transfers

CROSS REF: DN, School Properties Disposal Procedures