

FACILITIES PLANNING

The board recognizes that educational programs are substantially influenced by their environment. The development of a quality educational program and school facilities which help to implement it go together.

It is the board's goal to provide appropriate facilities needed for the number of students in the district and to provide the kind of facilities that support and accommodate the educational program. To this end, there should always be a five_year facilities plan on file with the board, which is updated every two years.

In planning facilities, the board recognizes that capital outlay funds are limited and that it must establish priorities in order to make the best use of the school building dollar.

Architects employed by the board are expected to plan for educational utility, flexibility and for access to and use by individuals with handicapping conditions. They are also expected to consider sound economics (low long_range maintenance costs, energy efficiency, low insurance rates) and quality of design.

New buildings and/or renovations to existing buildings shall be in accordance with established organizational patterns and designed to fit both current and anticipated instructional programs.

For each building project, a Building Committee will be appointed and charged with the responsibility of facilities planning. The authority and responsibilities of this Committee shall be detailed by the board at the time of appointment.

Decisions pertaining to the construction of educational facilities will be made after consultation with professional staff, students, parents and citizens.

All plans and procedures shall be in compliance with federal and state law, and all regulations of the Maine Department of Education shall be complied with in all stages of facilities planning and construction.

Legal Reference: **TITLE 20A MRSA SEC. 15903**

Adopted: **October 25, 1994**
Reviewed: **January 22, 2002**
Reviewed: **March 31, 2009**