

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Committee aims specifically toward:

1. Facilities that will accommodate organizational and instructional patterns that support the district's educational philosophy and instructional goals;
2. Meeting all safety requirements through the remodeling of older structures;
3. Providing building renovations to meet requirements on the availability of public school facilities to handicapped persons; and
4. Building design and construction that will lend themselves to low maintenance costs and the conservation of energy. These two factors will also be given special consideration in the renovation of buildings.
5. Every new school which is to be constructed and every addition to an existing school or program for modernization of an existing school shall be designed or planned so as to ensure that the educational opportunities to be offered within that school following its construction or expansion or reconstruction will be available equally to all students thereof without regard to the race, color, sex, religion or national origin of any such student.
6. The goal of each school shall be to provide equal numbers of males and females with those facilities and conveniences within a school which are separated for reasons of privacy, e.g. Showers, locker rooms, changing rooms, toilets and laboratories. Any school to be constructed shall make such provision and any plan for the expansion or modernization of an existing school shall include whatever provision is necessary in order to achieve compliance with 603 CMR 26.07.

Decisions pertaining to educational specifications of new buildings and those undergoing extensive remodeling will be developed only after the viewpoints of teachers, students, and parents have been sought.

LEGAL REF: 603 CMR 26:07

Adoption: 1/18/1996

First reading 2005 revision: June 6, 2005

Second reading: June 20, 2005

Adoption: July 11, 2005

Proposed reconsideration: July, 2010

Hull Public Schools

FACILITIES PLANNING

School Building Committee

The School Committee creates a school building committee for specific building projects. This committee acts as the administrative authority for the projects, subject to approval of various actions by the School Committee and town.

The school building committee has the following responsibilities:

1. To study and make recommendations to the town with respect to school building needs;
2. To review thoroughly with the Superintendent and the School Committee the educational requirements in relation to school buildings;
3. To review previous studies and initiate needed studies with or without consultative assistance; and
4. To employ the services of architects and cost estimators and such other professional assistance as it may deem necessary.

Staff Planning

Arrangements will be made by the Superintendent, working through principals, for the school staff to contribute in the planning of new school buildings. Teachers will be given the opportunity to submit suggestions for possible inclusion in the educational specifications.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 71:37C and D; 71:68; 71:70
Massachusetts Board of Education Regulations Governing the School
Building Assistance Act, Chapter 645 of the Acts of 1948 as amended, FY 79
and Board of Education 603 CMR, 38:00 and 603 CMR 26:07

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RETIREMENT OF FACILITIES

When a school building becomes inadequate by virtue of age, condition, size of site, lack of need, or other overriding limitations, and cannot reasonably and economically be brought up to the current educational standards, the building should be considered for a comprehensive closing study. The Superintendent will recommend to the School Committee which facilities appear to justify further analysis.

The School Committee may seek both professional advice and the advice of the community in making its recommendations as to the retirement of any school facility. This will permit the public, which originally acquired the property, to benefit from its recycling or retirement.

A closing study will include direct involvement by those neighborhoods considered in the study and will be concerned with all or some of the following factors:

1. Age and current physical condition of the facilities, its operating systems, and program facilities;
2. Adequacy of site, location, access, surrounding development, traffic patterns, and other environmental conditions;
3. Reassignment of children, including alternative plans according to committee policy;
4. Transportation factors, including numbers of children bussed, time, distance, and safety;
5. Alternative uses of the building;
6. Cost/Savings:
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Plant Operation
 - c. Transportation
 - d. Capital Investment
 - e. Alternative Use
7. Continuity of instructional and community programs.

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Hull Public Schools

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION

The School Committee shall require the Superintendent to develop a set of comprehensive educational specifications for the architect. These specifications, which shall then be discussed in conferences with the architect, shall include:

1. Information concerning the plan of school organization and estimated enrollment in the proposed building;
2. A description of the proposed curriculum and the teaching methods and techniques to be employed;
3. A schedule of space requirements, including an indication of relative locations of various spaces;
4. A desired layout of special areas and the equipment needed for such areas; AND
5. An outline of mechanical features and special finishes desired.

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Hull Public Schools

SITE ACQUISITION PROCEDURE

Priorities based upon student population, location, and education needs shall be established well in advance in order that proper locations for school sites might be acquired. Sites shall be acquired in advance of time for construction to allow adequate time for the completion of topography studies and other preliminary work. Eminent domain action of the acquisition of property for school site purposes shall be executed only after negotiations fail.

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Hull Public Schools

HONORING INDIVIDUALS WITHIN SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Hull School Committee chooses to recognize and honor certain individuals who have promoted excellence in education and contributed to the educational experience in the town of Hull. In selecting such individuals, favoritism, political office, political influence or temporary popularity shall play no role. A certain sensitivity and common sense must be reflected in the timing of any public recognition, since historical preservation and respect for our traditions are a key component in honoring our past.

Individuals Honored Through 2008: It is the policy of the School Committee that the names of existing structures, rooms, fields, items or areas in Hull schools dedicated to honor individuals prior to 2009 will not be changed. When a school building is replaced or extensively renovated, the then sitting School Committee is encouraged to carry over the names of these dedicated areas to preserve the history of the school. If the School Committee elects not to do so, the individuals previously honored shall be recognized by the placement of plaques in the new facility in areas designated by the Committee.

Individuals Honored From 2009 Forward: It is the policy of the School Committee that an individual chosen for recognition from 2009 forward shall be honored by the placement of a plaque in a designated area of a school selected by the Committee, a change from the pre-2009 policy of dedicating school areas in an individual's name. Each plaque shall briefly describe the contribution made by the honoree. Although trees may be donated, no plaques of any size are permitted on or in proximity to any such tree.

The Memorial School shall be used exclusively to honor veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

Veterans Honored From 2009 Forward: It is the policy of the School Committee that a veteran chosen for recognition from 2009 forward shall be honored by the placement of a plaque in a designated area of a school selected by the Committee. Each plaque shall briefly describe the contribution made by the honoree, as well as the branch of the military and years of service. Except for good cause, all requests to locate the plaque of any veteran so honored at the Memorial School shall be granted.

An honoree, family member or veteran's organization may, at any time, petition the School Committee to discontinue an area at another school dedicated prior to 2009 and to install a new plaque honoring that veteran at the Memorial School. The Committee shall act expeditiously upon any such request.

Procedure: At the request of the Superintendent or any individual School Committee member the Chairperson shall place a proposal to honor an individual on the agenda of a regular School Committee meeting for discussion and a vote to send a written request for an advisory opinion to the Committee Honoring Individuals at Public Schools.

The Chairperson shall not place any such proposal before the Committee for a final vote until the Committee has received the requested advisory opinion with sufficient biographical information on the nominee, including contributions made to education and the schools in the town of Hull.

Within forty-five (45) school days following receipt of the advisory opinion, the Chairperson will place the proposal on the agenda for discussion and a final vote. If the School Committee

approves the formal honoring of the nominated individual, this will be followed as soon as possible by a formal dedication ceremony. The ceremony should encompass a presentation of an official proclamation and the placement of an appropriate plaque to commemorate the individual's contribution to the Hull Public Schools.

Public Record: A list of school areas and spaces dedicated prior to 2009 is attached as Exhibit A. As new individuals are honored, their names shall be added the list, which shall remain an Exhibit to this policy statement. This list shall also be made available to the public on the School Committee's website.

First reading: March 16, 2009

Second reading: March 30, 2009

Adoption: April 13, 2009

Proposed reconsideration: April, 2014