

**BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PROPOSED POLICIES**

NEW CONSTRUCTION

SERIES 7000

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New Construction

Long Range Planning

The Bridgeport Board of Education endeavors to provide existing and future facilities which sustain high quality programs for all students at a reasonable cost.

The Bridgeport Board of Education believes that community understanding of the process by which facilities decisions are made contributes to sound decision making. Furthermore, the Board wishes to encourage community members and City government to communicate their comments, suggestions and concerns about facilities issues to the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools.

To achieve these purposes, the Bridgeport Board of Education seeks to...

1. provide facilities which give each student equal access to regular and special programs in a school building which is efficiently utilized, but which also contains enough available space to permit flexibility in response to evolving changes in enrollment and program;
2. anticipate future facilities needs, as far as possible, in response to changes in enrollment; and
3. review on a regular basis the utilization and condition of existing school buildings so as to ensure that the buildings are configured to meet the needs of changing programs over time, and that the facilities are properly maintained.

The Board of Education and Superintendent will develop a Facilities Master Plan and supporting administrative regulations as necessary to establish guidelines and procedures for implementing this policy.

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Facilities Master Plan

The Bridgeport Board of Education has adopted a facilities master plan for the school district which will be periodically updated. The facilities master plan reflects the needs of current instructional procedures and projected educational programming. The master plan incorporates population projections, enrollment projections, site acquisition needs, school plant placement, and determination of financial needs for providing the necessary school facilities.

The Board will periodically gather and analyze appropriate data to evaluate the district's facilities needs on a long-range basis. Such data will include, but not be limited to, enrollment projections, anticipated changes in the instructional program, analysis of the City's Master Plan for Development, analysis of sites and evaluation of present facilities.

The facilities master plan shall include how the district will provide an appropriate learning environment for its students which includes, (1) facilities and technology, (2) equitable allocation of resources among its schools and (3) a safe school setting. Attention shall also be given to how facilities can be utilized to improve academic achievement and to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation or to preserve racial and ethnic balance.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-4a Educational interests of state defined.

PA 97-290, An Act Enhancing Educational Choices and Opportunities.

10-220 Duties of Boards of Education.

New Construction

Selection of Site

The Bridgeport Board of Education shall approve school sites, as presented by the School Building Committee, prior to acquisition. Selection of school sites is a responsibility of the School Building Committee, utilizing input from the City's Planning Department and the following criteria as objectives. School sites should be located as near as is practical to the center of the attendance area the schools are expected to serve. It is also desirable for school sites to be located in such a way as to facilitate joint use of the sites and adjacent parks, playgrounds and open space by both the school and the City Parks Department.

In recommending sites for school facilities, the following factors should be considered:

- Size
- Location
- Drainage and soil conditions
- Topography and elevation
- Accessibility
- Existing site uses
- Cost
- Traffic Patterns

This should be done in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes.

Prior to submitting a site recommendation to the Board for approval, the building committee shall provide for a Phase I environmental site assessment in accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials Standard #1527, Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process, or similar subsequent standards.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-282 School building projects.

10-291 Approval of plans and site. Expense limit. (as amended by P.A. 03-220)

10-292 Review of final plans by Commissioner of Education. Exceptions; role of local officials

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Indoor Air Quality in New and Existing Facilities

The Board of Education recognizes that the maintenance of acceptable temperature, relative humidity and adequate fresh air ventilation in school buildings is a primary objective in the creation and maintenance of an optimal learning environment.

The Board of Education designates the Executive Director of Operations as the District's Indoor Air Quality Coordinator. The Coordinator shall implement an indoor air quality program that provides for ongoing maintenance and facility reviews, based on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's IAQ Tools for Schools program.

In accordance with statutory requirements, prior to January 1, 2008 and every five (5) years thereafter, for any District facility that has been constructed, extended, renovated or replaced on or after January 1, 2003, the District shall provide reports to the State Department of Education in a manner as required, on its indoor air quality program. Furthermore, all facilities not required to provide such reports shall also participate in the indoor air quality program in the interests of providing quality environments for all building users.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

P.A. 03-220 An Act Concerning Indoor Air Quality in Schools.

New Construction

Naming of Facility

It shall be the general policy of the Bridgeport Board of Education to name schools and partial school facilities for persons alive or dead who have attained prominence locally or nationally, or in the fields of education, science, art, statesmanship, political science, or military achievement; early pioneers of the community or the State of Connecticut; outstanding presidents of the United States of America; or geographical landmarks.

The general procedure for selecting a name for a school or a portion of a school shall be as follows:

1. The Board shall appoint a committee recommended by the Superintendent composed of two citizens at large from the community; one representative from each of the following groups – teachers, administrators, parent advisory committee members, and two student representatives from the area to be served.
2. The naming committee shall then present a list, which may be ranked, of neither less than three names nor more than five names to the Superintendent who will forward then to the Board.
3. The Board shall then make the final selection of the name from either a list of names submitted by the committee or a name of its own choosing.

The Administration shall conduct an annual survey of school buildings in the month of November to identify the top five capital project needs at each site. The capital projects listing will be presented to the Bridgeport Board of Education in the month of January for review and approval by the Board. The approved list will be submitted to the City of Bridgeport for inclusion in the Capital Improvement Plan request. (Note: Some project work may be eligible for school construction grants from the State of Connecticut but the majority of project work must be supported by local resources.)

Legal Reference: 10-220 Duties of Boards of Education