Facilities

EVALUATING EXISTING BUILDINGS

The adequacy and design of all existing school facilities shall be evaluated periodically in terms of meeting the needs of the instructional program and fulfilling the requirements of law regarding safety and structural soundness, accessibility to the handicapped and energy conservation.

A primary consideration in evaluating existing facilities shall be the preservation of a healthful environment for students and staff as well as providing an aesthetically pleasing learning and working environment.

In the evaluation of existing buildings, the installation of energy conserving devices, including insulation or the implementation of other design modifications, shall be considered as permitted by law for purposes of reducing energy costs.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17900-17903 Retrofitting existing school facilities for energy conservation
39210-39228 Fitness for occupancy (repair, renovation, or replacement of existing buildings), especially
39212 Building examinations; required actions of governing board upon report of unsafe conditions
Facilities

EVALUATING EXISTING BUILDINGS

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the adequacy, design, and conditions of existing district facilities to determine whether they meet the needs of the instructional program, provide a healthful and pleasing environment for students and staff. He/she also shall determine whether district facilities fulfill legal requirements for safety and structural soundness, access for the disabled and energy conservation.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall regularly calculate the capacity of existing school buildings to adequately house the district’s current students and projected enrollment.

Any identified needs for repair, modernization, or construction shall be incorporated into the district’s facilities planning process.

Structural Safety

In the event that the Department of General Services or any licensed structural engineer or licensed architect finds and reports to the Governing Board that a district building is unsafe for use, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately obtain an estimate of the cost of repairs or reconstruction necessary to bring the building up to legal standards for structural safety. The Board shall establish a system of priorities for the repair, reconstruction or replacement of unsafe school buildings. (Education Code 17367)

A relocatable school building or structure shall meet the requirements of Education Code 17280-17317 and 17365-17374 pertaining to structural safety. (Education Code 17291)

Energy Efficiency

To the extent that services are available the Superintendent or designee shall arrange for the energy audit of school buildings to identify the type and amount of work necessary to retrofit buildings and obtain an estimate of projected energy savings. The district may contract with qualified businesses capable of retrofitting these buildings and may borrow funds which do not exceed the amount of energy savings to be accumulated from the improvement of the buildings. (Education Code 17651-17653)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 3511 - Energy and Water Conservation)
(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 3515- Campus Security)
(cf. 3516 – Emergencies and disaster Preparedness Plan)
(cf. 3517 – Facilities Inspection)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)
EVALUATING EXISTING BUILDINGS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
17070.10-17077.10 Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 especially:
17071.10-17071.40 existing school building capacity
17280-17316 Building approvals
17365-17374 Fitness for occupancy
17650-17653 Retrofitting school facilities for energy conservation

GOVERNMENT CODE
53097 Compliance with city or county ordinances
53097.5 Inspection of schools by city or county

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2
1859-1859.106 Regulations relating to the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Maximizing School Board Governance: School Facilities Management

WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, School Facilities Division: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/fa
California Energy Commission, Bright Schools Program: http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/brightschoools
Coalition for Adequate School Housing: http://www.cashnet.org
Department of General Services, Office of Public School Construction: http://www.dgs.ca.gov/opsc