The Board of Education recognizes that the physical environment within a school is important to learning and staff performance. District staff shall endeavor to secure adequate capital funds to maintain a high level of quality for all district facilities that meet current program needs. Facility improvements shall be designed to promote:

1. A safe and secure environment for students and staff;
2. The attainment of stated educational goals;
3. A comfortable environment that enhances learning and human performance;
4. Flexibility of spatial arrangement that is conducive to restructuring of spaces to meet changing program needs, methods of instruction and learning styles without leaving a major impact on building systems or requiring major renovation;
5. A stimulating, roomy environment that is inviting to students, staff, parents and the community;
6. Appropriate spaces for the special needs of students and staff;
7. The adaptation of facilities for use of educational technology;
8. Collegiality and professionalism among staff;
9. Optimum life-cycle value;
10. Community use and involvement; and
11. Economical and efficient operation and maintenance.

Design for Capital Improvement Projects

The Construction Management and Support Department staff shall be responsible for coordinating the design for all capital improvement projects. Private design consultants shall be retained for project design except for design of small or specialty projects, which can be efficiently and economically performed by qualified professional Construction Management and Support Department staff. The design coordination effort shall endeavor to:

1. Assure design compliance with applicable building codes, and applicable federal, state, and local regulations;
2. Design facilities or facility improvements that provide comfort throughout the year. Air conditioning will be included as a design standard for all new schools, major renovation projects, and major heating/ventilation system renovation projects for all schools;
3. Utilize a participatory planning process during design;
4. Provide for periodic and final review of design documents by appropriate district staff and regulatory agencies;
5. Adhere to the project scope and budget;
6. Achieve efficient, functional, and economical designs; and
7. Achieve conformance with educational and technical specifications.

Preliminary designs for all new schools and for major addition and remodels to existing schools will be presented as information to District leadership prior to the preparation of contract drawings. Other projects, including smaller additions and various building repairs will not normally require Board review.