

Book **Board Policies**

Section 7000 Property

Title **CLOSING OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

Number po7105

Status Active

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7105 - CLOSING OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

In determining which school or schools shall be closed, a task force comprised of internal and external participants shall be created by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. This task force shall consider appropriate factors for closing a school building, including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. educational program (i.e., efficacy of educational program at a building, accommodation of the planned educational program in the schools remaining open)
- B. capacity (i.e., space for the efficient, effective and educationally sound organization of the total enrollment)
- C. safety and access (e.g., student safety and ease of access to the building; distance, time and cost of transporting students)
- D. relocation (i.e., number of students whose school assignment will be changed, capacity and projected enrollment at receiving school)
- E. burden (i.e., equitable sharing by students throughout the district of the effects of school closings)
- F. diversity (i.e., impact on socioeconomic status and race and ethnicity in the schools)
- G. accessibility for the handicapped (i.e., present or potential capability of the building to accommodate handicapped persons)



- H. age and condition (e.g., operation and maintenance costs, transportation costs, cost of closing facility, energy consumption and costs, cost to renovate)
- I. future use (e.g., marketability, conversion to another use, sale, or use as an alternative school)
- J. circumstances (i.e., unique situations within the school or district, impact of closing on neighborhood or community)
- K. student enrollment trends (i.e., projected assigned population and anticipated residential growth or decline)
- L. space to accommodate choice of community schools and open enrollment. Space to accommodate community/school collaborations and other district initiatives
- M. location and site characteristics
- N. ability to maintain feeder patterns from elementary school to middle school to high school to assure K-12 continuity
- O. other variables

Since conditions may not permit giving equal weight to all factors, decisions shall be based on overall balance and objectivity.

The report to the Board on the closing of specific schools shall include the factors used in the selection process. A statement of rationale for each school affected by the closing of a specific school shall be included in the report and made available to parents and the community.

Effective 7/1/15