

## **SECTION F**

### **FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT**

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## **FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The School Committee believes that any educational program is influenced greatly by the environment in which it functions. The development of a quality educational program and school facilities that help to implement the program must go hand in hand.

Therefore, it is the Committee's goal to provide the facilities needed for the number of students in the school system, and to provide the kind of facilities that will best support and accommodate the educational program.

In planning facilities, the Committee recognizes that capital outlay funds are limited, and that priorities must be established to make the best use of the school building dollar. The Committee's first objective will be to develop a plan that eliminates overcrowding and minimizes the need for extended day programs and double sessions. Whenever possible, the cultural as well as educational needs of the community will be considered in planning facility expansions.

LEGAL REF.:           603 CMR 26:07

## **FACILITIES PLANNING**

The School Committee shall have general charge and superintendence of all school buildings and grounds and shall furnish all school buildings with proper fixtures, furniture and equipment. The School Committee shall provide ordinary maintenance of all school buildings and grounds; provided, however, the Town Council may, by ordinance, provide for the establishment of a central municipal maintenance department which may include maintenance of school buildings and grounds.

Whenever the School Committee shall determine that additional classrooms are necessary to meet the educational needs of the community, at least one member of the School Committee, or a designee of the School Committee, shall serve on the agency, board or committee to which the planning or construction of such new, remodeled or renovated school building is delegated.

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  
Town of Weymouth Charter Section 4-5

## **CONSTRUCTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

(a) Establishment: There shall be a Construction Steering Committee which shall consist of seven members; the mayor, the director of public works, the director of planning and community development, the director of municipal licenses and inspections, the maintenance director of the school department, or their designees, shall serve by virtue of their office, and two persons shall be appointed by the mayor for terms of three years, each so arraigned that the terms of office expire in different years. One member of the School Committee or a designee shall replace the director of planning and community development on the committee whenever there is planning or construction of new, remodeled or renovated school buildings.

(b) Authority and Responsibility: Whenever any construction, reconstruction or remodeling of any municipal or school building or other Town of Weymouth facility is proposed to be undertaken the proposed project shall be referred to the Construction Steering Committee. The Construction Steering Committee shall evaluate the proposal and shall file a report, including its recommendations, with the mayor. The Construction Steering Committee shall be responsible for any construction, reconstruction or remodeling work is authorized to be undertaken including site acquisition, site preparation, designer selection, schematic design, preliminary design, bid preparation, bid award, and supervision of construction.

The Construction Steering Committee may, in appropriate circumstances, establish an advisory committee to represent the ultimate user of the building or other facility to assist the building and other facilities planning and construction committee in making decisions which will best reflect the needs of the ultimate user. Members of any such committee as may be established shall be appointed by the mayor.

The Construction Steering Committee shall make a continuing review of all plans and proposals for capital improvements to municipal buildings and other facilities, including all proposals made by or on behalf of the School Committee, and shall evaluate and assign priorities to each such proposal project.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed or be interpreted to mean that by establishing this committee the executive powers of the mayor have in any manner been diminished, specifically, reserved to the mayor is the authority to award all contracts and to approve all payments, subject only to the appropriation of funds by the town council.

## **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.

## **MEMORIALS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF**

From time to time there may be a desire to honor a deceased student, employee, or other member of the school district community. Any individual or group considering honoring a deceased member of the school community shall place their request in writing and submit their request to the building principal (or appropriate supervisor) who will consult with the family of the deceased, as well as the Superintendent of Schools for consideration. The Superintendent will bring forward properly filed requests to the School Committee for consideration. Memorials may only be approved by majority vote of the School Committee.

### **Recommendations:**

It is strongly recommended that such memorials be in the following forms:

- A financial, capital, or scholarship gift to promote educational, athletic, or extra curricular initiatives within the school or district that was meaningful to the individual, or
- a living memorial, such as a tree.

Memorials may be marked with a small plaque indicating the name and relevant information of the person to be memorialized. The district does not endorse large, permanent memorials and will not allow such displays on school property. No District monies shall be expended for memorial plaques, dedication plates, etc. except as reasonably required for installation purposes. Written permission from family members shall be obtained prior to making final arrangement for a memorial or dedication.

Most ordinarily, the recognition or ceremony will take place four to six months after the request. The Superintendent of School's Office shall be responsible for coordinating the placement of approved memorials.

Other types of memorials may be considered for approval, using the same process indicated above. The School Committee may authorize other memorials (such as naming a facility, room, field, etc.) by majority vote unless approval of the Memorial Committee is required.