

The board is committed to designing new and renovated facilities in a manner that maximizes the use of space, conserves environmental resources and produces structurally sound and safe buildings. All school buildings should be designed to create safe, orderly and inviting learning environments where students can succeed. School buildings also will be planned to the extent feasible for maximum use by the community and for providing extended services to students.

The superintendent is responsible for overseeing the design of facilities that have been identified in the long-range facility needs plan and have been approved for funding. New or renovated facilities must be designed to meet all legal requirements, including State building codes and legal standards for accessibility and use of facilities by persons with disabilities. The superintendent will utilize services of outside professionals, including architects and other consultants, in the facility design and construction. Any contract for professional services must be reviewed by the board attorney, approved by the board, and meet any applicable board policies. The superintendent also will involve school staff, parents and students in the design of school buildings.

The superintendent will report periodically to the board on the development of facility plans. The superintendent also will report on the State Board's review of facility plans conducted pursuant to G.S. 115C-521(c) and will specifically address any concerns noted by the State Board. The board will give final approval of facility plans before investing money into new buildings or renovations.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §794(b); 34 C.F.R. pt. 104 (subpt. C); 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.; 28 C.F.R. pt. 35 (subpt. D); G.S. 115C-204, -521; 133, arts. 1 and 3; State Board of Education, North Carolina Public School Facilities Guidelines; Safe Schools Facility Planner

Cross Reference: Selection and Use of Architects (policy 9110)

Adopted: February 7, 2005