

## **EVALUATING EXISTING BUILDINGS**

The Board of Education believes the adequacy and design of all existing facilities should be evaluated periodically in terms of meeting the needs of the instructional program and fulfilling the requirements of law regarding safety, structural soundness, accessibility to the handicapped and energy conservation and in accordance with the adopted goals and policies of the Comprehensive School Facilities Capital Improvement and Finance Plan (“Plan”).

### Criteria for Evaluation

All facilities will ensure the safety, security, and physical comfort of students and staff and be in accordance with the Plan. This includes conformity to the best fire and earthquake safety guidelines and controls as they pertain to the renovation of telecommunication systems, lighting, heating, air conditioning, and ventilation as necessary and appropriate at each site.

### Energy Conservation

Buildings must be evaluated with energy conservation in mind. This concern is imperative due to increasing energy costs and diminishing supplies of energy sources.

### Required Actions of the Board

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.

As required by the Office of Public School Construction, “Districts are required to establish a restricted account within the district’s general fund for the exclusive purpose of providing funding for annual ongoing maintenance and routine repair to ensure that State School Building Lease-Purchase projects are at all times kept in good repair and working order. Districts are required to establish a restricted maintenance account prior to the initial approval of a State School Building Lease-Purchase project.”

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**Legal Reference:**

EDUCATION CODE

17900-17903	Retrofitting existing school facilities for energy conservation
35160	School Board Authority
39210-39232	Fitness for occupancy (repair, renovation, or replacement of existing buildings
39212	Building examinations; required actions of governing board upon report of unsafe conditions
17070.75	[Under Proposed SB50] Board shall required the school district to make all necessary repairs, renewals, and replacements to ensure the new projects are at all times kept in good repair

**Adopted: 10/13/98**