

Policy 7111: Evaluating Existing Buildings

Status: ADOPTED

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The Superintendent or designee shall periodically evaluate the adequacy and design of existing district facilities to determine whether they meet the needs of the instructional program, provide a healthful and pleasing environment for students and staff, and fulfill legal requirements for safety and structural soundness, access for the disabled and energy conservation.

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. (Education Code 17367)

Energy Efficiency

When evaluating existing buildings, the Superintendent or designee shall arrange for the preaudit and postaudit of school buildings by utility companies or independent energy audit firms to the extent that these services are available. Information provided by these services shall be used to determine the cost of retrofitting the buildings and the savings which may result from adding insulation, making design modifications or using other energy-conserving devices. The district may contract with qualified businesses capable of retrofitting these buildings and may borrow funds which do not exceed the amount of energy savings to be accumulated from the improvement of the buildings. (Education Code 17651-17653)

Report of Existing Building Capacity

The district shall submit a one-time report of existing school capacity to the State Allocation Board. The district's, or where appropriate the attendance area's, existing school capacity shall be calculated pursuant to the formulas set forth in Education Code 17071.10-17071.40 and in 2 CCR 1859-1859.106.
