

*Adopted:* 1998

*Revised:* 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013

## **803 FACILITIES DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide general guidelines for the planning, design and construction of school buildings, and site improvements that are in conformance with the long-range facilities plan.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to authorize the construction of school buildings. They shall be of an appropriate size to meet the demands of present and future student enrollment, and in doing so, provide the highest quality of educational environment for students at the lowest expenditure of tax dollars.

Careful consideration will be given to the viewpoints of the administration, teachers, support staff, students, parents, and the community as a whole prior to making final decisions pertaining to the construction of, or additions to, educational facilities.

### **III. PLANNING**

The Board of Education shall rely on the findings and contents of its long-range facilities plan to determine when consideration shall be given to school construction projects (reference Policy 801).

### **IV. EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Facilities shall be designed to accommodate the educational and instructional needs of the District.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be assigned the responsibility of developing the final educational specifications for school construction projects. It is the responsibility of the Board of Education to approve the final educational specifications for school construction projects.

It is the Board's expectation that the professional experience and judgment of staff as well as comments from students, parents and the community as a whole will be used in developing the educational specifications. The Superintendent shall utilize the assistance of consultants when deemed necessary.

## **V. CONSTRUCTION FUNDING**

Preliminary cost estimates shall be developed using the educational specifications as a guideline to determine the financial resources required for proposed construction projects. The District may utilize the professional services of a consultant, architect, engineer, contractor, or any combination of the same to assist in developing the preliminary cost estimates.

The Board of Education shall identify the revenue source, or sources, to complete the construction project and take the appropriate action to procure the same. Potential revenue sources include the Reserve for Operating Capital Revenue (Facilities Fund), Health and Safety Fund, Bond Issuance (Policy Section 804), joint ventures with municipal agencies, grants, and private contributions.

## **VI. ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES**

The Board of Education shall utilize the services of architectural and engineering firms to assist the District design, bid and construct school buildings and site improvement projects (Policy Section 805).

## **VII. CONSTRUCTION**

School building and improvement projects shall be constructed in accordance with the statute of the State of Minnesota (Policy Section 806).

***Legal References:*** MS 123B.70, MS 123B.71, MS 123B.63

***Cross References:*** Policies 801, 802, 804, 805 and 806