

FACILITIES

Policy 701-R
(previously Policy 901-R)

Facilities Planning and Development

Recognizing that the quality of district facilities can enhance effective learning, teaching and administration, the Board of Education will strive for facilities which offer the best possible environment, within financial limitations, for district activities.

Specifically, the Board will aim toward:

- New and rejuvenated buildings which facilitate organizational and instructional patterns in support of the Richmond School District's educational philosophy and instructional goals;
- Maintaining facilities that meet health, safety and occupant comfort requirements;
- Providing building renovations as needed to meet accessibility requirements for persons with diverse abilities; and
- Building design and construction which enable low maintenance costs and energy conservation.

A. Planning

1. Long Range Facilities Planning

- a) A District-wide Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), forming the basis for capital investment decisions in school facilities, will be maintained by district staff and will take into consideration:
 - educational program requirements and trends;
 - current and 10-15 year projections in enrolments, and community demographics;
 - operating capacities, utilization and condition of existing facilities, including temporary accommodation and/or rental facilities;
 - current and anticipated changes in land use;
 - future trends or anticipated new initiatives, including both those of the District and the Provincial Government; and
 - transportation of students.
- b) The vision for the LRFP is "a Board-approved planning document which supports our district vision for today, tomorrow and into the future. An LRFP will support our changing demographics and educational programming needs, and will ensure that our student learning environments will be safe and welcoming in modernized facilities distributed equitably across our district".
- c) The LRFP guiding principles are:
 - ensure that facilities planning is always in alignment with our District Vision, Mission and Values;

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- d) Upon Board approval, the Project Planner finalizes the PDR and submits to the Ministry for approval.
- e) Upon Ministry approval, a Capital Funding Project Agreement (CFPA) is developed and co-signed between the Board and Ministry to enable funding of the project, including costs associated with the development of the PDR, and to initiate project design and implementation.

3. Design

Once the CFPA is duly executed and Certificate of Approval is received from the Minister of Education:

- a) The District assigns a Project Manager, who is responsible for the successful delivery of the complete project.
- b) The Project Manager retains the project architect, specialty consultants and construction manager (refer Section D for selection process) for the duration of the project.
- c) The Project Manager establishes the Project Design Advisory Committee and proceeds with the design and review of the project in accordance with District Policy 701.2-R - Capital Project Design Review Process.

4. Permits and Tendering

Once working drawings and specifications are complete:

- a) The project architect assembles the necessary documents to apply for a building permit from the City of Richmond.
- b) The Project Manager works with the Purchasing Department to conduct tendering and awarding of trade contracts in accordance with provincial procurement policy and best practices.

5. Construction

Once the building permit is obtained, the Project Manager:

- a) administers construction and occupancy of the project in accordance with industry best practices and established district standards;
- b) at substantial completion, coordinates deficiency inspections and commissioning of equipment involving Facilities Services and Learning & Business Technologies Departments staff; and
- c) at final completion, ensures all systems are functioning as designed, receives and arranges for filing of record drawings, maintenance materials, manuals and warranties.

C. Appointment of Project Consultants and Construction Managers

- 1. Processes for developing specifications and designs for new building or renovations shall provide for involvement of affected stakeholders.
- 2. Since an effective working relationship between District staff and external consultants is essential to the efficient design process, a group of three to four (3 to

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