



Draft A

Design Policy for all Public School Buildings

Purpose:

To ensure the right to safety, security, and privacy.

At all times, the safety, security and privacy of all students, teachers, staff, administrative officials, and parents are of paramount concern and shall be reflected in this Design Policy. It is recognized that all individuals possess a right to privacy when using the restroom or other spaces to remove clothes or engage in personal hygiene. This right is heightened when persons of the opposite sex are present and individuals feel uncomfortable using communal facilities. This is particularly important where minor school-aged children are still developing, both emotionally and physically.

With this recognition of physical privacy rights, there is a corresponding need to ensure the safety and security of students, staff, teachers, parents, and other administration officials while maintaining discipline within the school building. This design policy is enacted to address the need of students, staff, teachers, parents, administration officials and members of the public to face the cultural and political changes that directly affect their personal responsibilities, duties, or obligations in relation to the use of restrooms, locker rooms, showers, and other similar school facilities. Whether facilities are used during school or community related day, evening, or overnight events, individuals must be able to protect their privacy while remaining safe or feeling secure from others while in a state of undress or engaged in matters related to personal hygiene.

Use of School Buildings Daytime and Overnight; Accommodations.

School buildings are used during the day for educational and community purposes. At times, the building may be used for evening events, including, overnight events. Hence, this policy is to ensure consistency within the school building at any time it is in use for school district educational purposes or other community related events. The policy's purpose shall be consistent regardless of the school building's use.

Design Policy:

This Design Policy shall be implemented to commit the School District to immediately engage in the design, upgrade, and remodeling of all existing school district buildings and for new building construction.



Individuals of all genders will have equal access to private and secure separate facilities to be designed with the following criteria:

Restrooms:

Inclusive restrooms to improve individual safety, privacy, and sense of security for all genders:

- Floor-to-ceiling door and walls;
- Fan and light that automatically turns-on;
- Each toilet stall has a door lock that clearly displays whether a stall is vacant or occupied on the outside;
- On the inside, the door sign will read as secure or unsecure;
- Shared handwashing area under camera surveillance or camera surveillance at entrance to the restroom facility;
- Wide entrances and open design; individuals walking by to easily see into the general restroom area (for monitoring purposes);

Teachers, staff, and administrators may use the same inclusive bathroom facility as the students.

For new construction, these facilities should be located in busy areas to allow for easy monitoring by staff and other individuals.

Locker-rooms:

- Individual changing stalls;
- Individual shower stalls;
- Lockers, locate in communal areas;
- No changing or nudity in communal areas is allowed;
- Team Rooms (A and B for instance) for junior and high schools;
- Security cameras at entrance to locker-rooms.

Exceptions on use:

Although this design policy is to ensure that students, teachers, staff, and others their safety, security, and privacy there are exceptions, such as:

- a. the need to render emergency medical or mental-health assistance;



- b. for custodial or maintenance purposes, when the facility is not occupied by a person of the opposite sex or transgender;
- c. during a natural disaster, emergency, or when necessary to prevent or deter a serious threat to good order or student safety; or
- d. during any kind of man-made emergency such as a threat of violence to a student's or others safety.

Policy Implementation:

School districts, upon adopting this policy, shall seek the necessary and complete funding for the design, upgrade, remodeling, or new construction within the general criteria noted above. The School District and the School District's Board shall consider and enact processes (such as appeals to the State Department of Education; the State Legislature, or by other available means) necessary to adequately fund projects or expend moneys necessary to assist the School District to meet the established Policy and do so in a timely manner.

The School District must also consider other sources such as other federal, state, county, city, or school district moneys, through grants or taxes or private dedicated donations.

Notice shall be provided to the public regarding how the School District shall pay for the policy implementations and to include the public in considering design options.

Upon adoption of this policy, the School District is to immediately fund the necessary consultants or other people necessary to obtain, for each school building, recommended designs and costs or other considerations to implement this Policy. The completion of the Policy's implementation must be within two years of the adoption of this Policy.

Once construction of any kind is considered and contract negotiations started, the School District must negotiate and enforce against any entity, necessary monetary penalties to minimize or eliminate construction delays.

Parents and taxpayers of the School District have a distinct and unique interest in the implementation of this policy. As parents and taxpayers, the School District acknowledges that they are stakeholders in the implementation of the policy and thus, have a right to have the policy take effect in a timely manner. Failure to meet the prescribed two-year deadline as described above is declared here as not timely.