

Temporary Use of Supplemental Mobile Classrooms

Well-planned construction of learning spaces and school facilities to meet student needs and avoid the use of supplemental classrooms is preferred. Mobile units are sometimes needed to provide temporary learning spaces when enrollment exceeds program capacity or to meet unique student needs at a school.

The Long-Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC) begins to consider construction or redistricting options at schools as growth in projected enrollment approaches or exceeds 95% of program capacity. Supplemental classrooms may be required to meet student needs before redistricting is implemented or the County's Capital Improvements Program funds a project to increase capacity.

Principals shall consider a number of factors in deciding which classes or small group student learning activities will be located in supplemental classrooms each year. The factors considered should include, but are not limited, to accessibility, student needs, program considerations, and grade-level clustering.

Costs associated with the supplemental classrooms, including the cost to purchase or rent the portables, the expense of running electric, water, technology, and other services to the units, should be reflected in the appropriate fiscal budget.

Regulations and specifications regarding portable classrooms can be found at the Virginia Department of Education web site:
http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/facility_construction/school_construction/regs_guidelines/guidelines.pdf.