

Retirement of Facilities

Policy Information

Series F - Facilities Planning and Development

Retirement of Facilities

Policy # FCB

FILE: FCB

RETIREMENT OF FACILITIES

When a school building becomes inadequate by virtue of age, condition, size of site, lack of need, or other overriding limitations, and cannot reasonably and economically be brought up to the current educational standards, the building should be considered for a comprehensive closing study. The Superintendent will recommend to the School Committee which facilities appear to justify further analysis.

The School Committee may seek both professional advice and the advice of the community in making its recommendations as to the retirement of any school facility. This will permit the public, which originally acquired the property, to benefit from its recycling or retirement.

A closing study will include direct involvement by those neighborhoods considered in the study and will be concerned with all or some of the following factors:

1. Age and current physical condition of the facilities, its operating systems, and program facilities.
2. Adequacy of site, location, access, surrounding development, traffic patterns, and other environmental conditions.
3. Reassignment of children, including alternative plans according to Committee policy.
4. Transportation factors, including numbers of children bussed, time, distance, and safety.
5. Alternative uses of the building.
6. Cost/Savings
 - a. Personnel
 - b. Plant operation
 - c. Transportation
 - d. Capital investment
 - e. Alternative use
7. Continuity of instructional and community programs.

While the closing of a school is solely the responsibility of the School Committee, disposal of the building is a function of the town, under Massachusetts law. When the Committee determines, after thorough study, that a school is no longer needed by the school system, it may vote to turn the building over to the Board of Selectmen for use by the community; for sale or lease; for raising; or, for whatever use the Selectmen may determine.