

Retirement of Facilities

The Board will annually review space needs for the educational program. Consideration will be given to closing schools when declining enrollment or staffing issues results in detrimental effects on the District's educational program and/or results in adverse effects on the financial management of the District. The Board will keep the public informed of any consideration to close a school.

If the Board wishes to close a school, it may do so by resolution at a Board meeting on or before December 1st. In the event the District unsuccessfully attempts to legitimately and reasonably fill certified staffing needs for a site, the Board may re-assign students as deemed necessary. A school closing, due to staffing shortages, may occur once a determination has been made that staffing issues cannot be resolved.

The Board, also by resolution, may submit the question to a vote of the people. If persons other than the Board wish to have the question of closing a school submitted to a vote of the people, they must file with the business manager, by January 15th, a petition calling for an election. Such a petition must be signed by at least 15 percent of the registered voters of the District at the last preceding general election. As per South Dakota codified law, an election must be held prior to March 1st.

The following criteria may be used to aid in making recommendations for the closing of schools:

1. Enrollment projections and classroom usage
 - a) The determining enrollment numbers will be taken on the last Friday of September of the current school year, in conjunction with enrollment numbers included for state aid purposes. The established guideline for school closure consideration will be 30 students or fewer.
2. Future financial forecast
3. Effect upon the educational program of the school and the District
4. Effect upon the community
5. Evaluation of present facilities, including:
 - a) educational adequacy
 - b) operational costs
 - c) modernization potential

Legal References: SDCL 13-23-1; 13-23-2; 13-23-3

Policy References: Legal references indicate the basis or authority for the Board to enact this policy, and policy cross references identify additional policies related to the subject matter of the above policy.

State References Description SDCL 13-23 Establishment & discontinuance of schools Board Policy Manual Associated School Boards of South Dakota Printed: 1/20/2021 11:22 AM

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