

School Building Committee Charter and Membership

May 7, 2025

OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE:

1. Recommend the future configuration of the Westerly Public Schools buildings and the required facility improvements to the Westerly School Committee.
2. Assist Westerly Public Schools in the evaluation of existing facility conditions and management of annual Capital Improvement expenditures.
3. Prepare and submit the documents required for additional funding agencies, including the RIDE School Building Authority and available local and federal grant programs.

INSTRUCTIONS / GUIDANCE:

1. Planning should focus on the projected student population and existing facility conditions.
2. Prioritization of Capital Improvements should be evaluated on a 5-year basis to include required scope of work, cost and funding projections, and schedule.
3. Guidance from RIDE is available and should inform all work of the committee.
4. The Committee should meet as many times as needed to complete its work.
5. The Committee shall engage district legal counsel when appropriate.
6. The Committee shall recommend the engagement of outside consultants and/or professionals to assist Westerly Public Schools in Major Projects and Capital Improvements.

REPORTING & DUTIES:

The Building Committee Chair shall update the School Committee at periodic regular meetings under Subcommittee Reports as required or at the request of the School Committee.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Building Committee shall have **at least** eight (8) members with two (2) alternates. Membership shall follow RIDE School Construction Regulations (5/24/07) and consist of the following members:

- School Committee Member
- Superintendent of Schools, Permanent Member
- Director of Building Maintenance, Permanent Member
- Planning Board representative
- School Principal
- A Westerly Public Schools educator who has knowledge of the educational mission and function of the facility
- Local budget official or member of the local finance committee
- Community Member with architectural, engineering and/or construction experience

The School Committee shall appoint/re-appoint non-permanent members to terms consisting of four (4) years, staggered every two (2) even-numbered years, and be limited consecutively to two (2) terms.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As per Westerly School Committee By-Laws Article IX. Subcommittees, the Building Committee shall elect its own officers.

TERMINATION OF BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee will remain active and may be dissolved or terminated at any regular or special meetings of the School Committee.

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VACANCIES

Vacancies and appointments to the Building Committee shall be reported and publicized, as needed, at regular meetings under Subcommittee Reports. In the event of a vacancy, the Building Committee chair or Superintendent of Schools will make a recommendation to the full School Committee for appointment. Nominations will be approved by the majority vote of the School Committee.