FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

Facilities Planning

The Prince William County School Board shall construct and maintain school facilities which support the health and safety of students and staff, facilitate student learning, and foster community involvement. In so doing, the School Board shall provide a *World-Class* educational environment for students and staff at a reasonable expenditure of tax dollars. Decisions pertaining to the construction, renovation, closure, or temporary inactivation of educational facilities will include the viewpoints and needs of students, staff, parents, and the public.

To meet the demands of current and projected student enrollment, the Prince William County School Board shall authorize:

- The construction of new school facilities and/or classroom additions;
- Renovations, repairs, and renewals to existing school facilities; and
- The closing or inactivation of schools.

At such time when student projections, as made by the school staff and approved by the Superintendent, signal changes in enrollment which would provide economic reason to close, change the use, or temporarily inactivate one or more buildings, the Prince William County School Board shall consider such changes following appropriate public hearings.

As part of the annual budget process, the Prince William County School Board shall establish and adopt a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that sets forth a comprehensive plan to address the need for site acquisition, new construction, renewals of existing facilities, and the upgrading and maintenance of the School Division’s infrastructure.

A public hearing regarding the Capital Improvements Program shall be held as part of the annual budget process to gather input from parents, teachers, administrators, and the general public.

The construction of new school facilities and renovations of existing school facilities shall be in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and county building codes and ordinances.

In addition to the public hearing for the CIP, all new facility construction planning must be approved by the School Board. Before cumulative expenditures in excess of $500,000 may be made on new planned facilities, the School Board shall approve, by a separate vote:

1) a specialty program planned for a new school; 2) all construction modifications required for that specialty program; 3) all changes to a prototype design where space functions or building appearances are significantly changed; and 4) all athletic fields and accommodations for sports programs. The Superintendent, or his designee, shall brief the School Board on the approximate costs and benefits of any such activity in order for the Board to undertake such a vote.
Facilities Planning (continued)

The annual CIP document shall include recommended capital projects for the next 10 fiscal years, a proposed construction schedule with cost estimate, and a summary of the status for the capital projects approved for the previous fiscal year.

The Associate Superintendent for Finance and Support Services, or designee, is responsible for implementing and monitoring this policy.

The Associate Superintendent for Finance and Support Services, or designee, is responsible for reviewing this policy in 2017.

Legal Reference: Virginia Code § 22.1-140, “Plans for Buildings to be Approved by Division Superintendent”

Adopted: June 18, 1974
Reviewed/Revised: February 5, 2014

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD