

Closure of Facilities

The Board of Directors has the authority to close a school building due to unforeseen circumstances such as when an unforeseen natural event or mechanical failure causes a facility to become unsafe, unhealthy, inaccessible, inoperable or when a facility is no longer needed by the District because of enrollment decrease, redistribution of students, or other reasons as determined by the Board.

Before closing a school building due to foreseen circumstances, a written analysis shall be prepared which considers:

1. Projected or actual enrollment declines, and their expected duration,
2. The effect of the closure on other facilities and on the district's educational program.
3. Student and staff displacement, including transportation costs to new facilities.
4. Potential for renovation, if applicable,
5. Cost savings, operating and maintenance costs, revenue potential from sale or lease, or other financial considerations,
6. Safety, health and fire regulations,
7. Possible use of facility for other purposes.

During a ninety-day period following the development of the written analysis, the board shall conduct one or more public hearings to receive testimony on issues related to the proposed closure. Notice of the hearings shall be publicized at least once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the first scheduled hearing. The notice shall contain the date, time, place and purpose of the hearing.

Comments received shall be used for advisory purposes only. The final determination to close a building shall be made by the board.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.150.290(2) State superintendent to make rules and regulations 28A.320.010 Corporate powers 28A.335.020 School Closures – Policy of citizen involvement required – Summary of effects – Hearings - Notice
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RSD #400

Adopted: June 12, 1984

Revised: January 27, 2009