

CLOSING/CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOLS

FILE: FCB

Purpose

To identify the procedure and factors to consider when closing or consolidating schools

Definitions

N/A

Policy Statement

As population matures or shifts within the school district, certain school buildings may no longer be needed for their original purpose and should be utilized to benefit the school district or public in other ways. In determining which facility is to be retired for regular school purposes, the Board shall adopt procedures that ensure at a minimum, that consideration is given to the impact of the proposed closing or consolidation on the following factors:

1. Student enrollment trends
2. Age or condition of school building
3. Transportation
4. Age or condition of school buildings
5. Racial composition of the student body
6. Financial considerations
7. Student relocation
8. Impact on the community in geographic attendance area for school proposed to be closed and school, or schools, to which students will be relocating

The Board shall invite the viewpoints of parents, staff, and the public in making its decision.

If the Board determines to close a school, it shall first consider other uses that the school district might make of the building. Then it shall consider, in order, its sale to the municipality, to nonprofit educational and civic organizations, or to private entrepreneurs.

The historic value of any building also shall be considered by the Board. In such cases, it may take special action to provide for its preservation.

Legal Reference	Code of Maryland Regulations	COMAR	Title 13A.02.01
Policy History	Adopted June 15, 1993	Reviewed January 11, 2000	Revised June 11, 2002 Jan. 10, 2006, 1 st Reading Feb. 14, 2006, 2 nd Reading