

Purpose

To identify the policy concerning planning and administration of construction projects

Definitions

N/A

Policy Statement

Changing educational needs requires the planning, design, and construction of new educational facilities as well as renovating or constructing additions to existing schools. The size, complexity, and potential cost for such a program requires that the Capital Improvements Plan incorporate the following principles:

1. Flexibility – Modern technology has made available a wide choice of construction materials that will allow a building to be adjustable for future changes in curriculum, instruction and/or teaching methods.
2. Durability – Buildings should be constructed of durable materials that will allow for the initial cost to be offset by lowering operational or maintenance expenses in the future if possible.
3. Expandability – The building design should provide for the possibility of future enrollment changes, while leaving the original concept of the structure intact.
4. Accessibility – Buildings should be designed to allow easy flow of traffic for all who use the building. This principle applies not only to vehicular traffic, but also to the establishment of effective traffic patterns inside the school. The building should meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
5. Environmental – Aesthetic values must be considered in planning the total school environment. In order to provide the best possible environment for students, staff and community, the facility should be safe, healthy, and physically conducive to learning.

The *Administrative Procedures Guide of the Public School Construction* Program should guide the design, development and construction of all educational facilities projects in Allegany County.

Legal Reference			
Policy History	Adopted	Reviewed	Revised Jan. 10, 2006, 1s Reading Feb. 14, 2006, 2 nd Reading