

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

It shall be the policy of the Ledyard Board of Education to develop Educational Specifications that address all aspects of a planned facility that will affect the educational program within the Ledyard Public School District. Educational Specifications are the means by which the Board shall describe the educational activities, spaces and adjacencies of spaces that need to be incorporated in a new or renovated facility. They are written statements that serve as a vehicle of communication between the school system and the project architect. The Educational Specifications shall be used as a guideline for developing plans and specifications for the school building project.

Development of Educational Specifications

The Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with the project's building committee and/or the Board's Facilities and Land Use Committee, shall develop Educational Specifications using the guidance of this policy. The Superintendent and/or his/her designee shall present the Educational Specifications to the Board for review and adoption prior to dissemination to the architect.

Content of Educational Specifications

As a minimum, Educational Specifications shall include the following:

- Project rationale,
- Master Building Plan for the District,
- Capacity and enrollment data,
- Educational programs to be housed in the facility,
- Support facilities,
- Planned community use,
- Systems to be incorporated in the facility (HVAC, technology, wireless connectivity, etc.),
- Environment controls,
- Handicap access,
- Unique requirements to support Special Education programs,
- Site development,
- Priority category and rationale (for State Department of Education grant application),
- Design requirements to support maintenance of proper indoor air quality,
- Design requirements to support energy conservation including maximizing the use of natural light,
- Incorporation of automatic fire extinguishing systems,
- Other data, such as: room sizes; adjacencies; acoustics; lighting levels; configuration of rooms; colors; windows; floor finish; furniture; and classroom equipment, and
- Compliance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed by the School Safety Infrastructure Council pursuant to Section 80 of Public Act 13-3.

Incorporating Energy-Conserving Design Elements

The Ledyard Board of Education recognizes the importance and need to incorporate energy-conserving designs into the construction of new school facilities and the renovation of existing buildings. Energy conservation considerations and proposals for school building projects shall include means to maximize the use of natural light.

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The project’s building committee and/or the Board’s Facilities and Land Use Committee shall investigate programs that promote the use of energy-saving equipment and/or construction practices through financial incentives such as rebates, low or zero-interest loans, and grants (from state, federal and/or private sources).

High priority will be given to those proposed new construction and renovation projects that contain the most efficient energy-saving plans within an acceptable budget. Energy-saving design features shall be documented in the architectural evaluation.

Classrooms or libraries shall be constructed or altered in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard S12.60-2002, “Acoustical Performance Criteria, Design Requirements and Guidelines for Schools.”

Related Policies:

7230.2 – Indoor Air Quality Design Requirements

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes (last amended by specified Public Act (PA))

- 10-282. Definitions. (PA 17-2, June Special Session (SS))
- 10-283. Applications for grants for school building projects. (PA 17-2, June SS)
- 10-284. Approval or disapproval of applications by Commissioner of Administrative Services. (PA 17-237)
- 10-285g. Acoustical standards. Waiver. (PA 13-247)
- 10-292r. School Safety Infrastructure Council. School safety infrastructure criteria. (PA 15-3, June SS)
- 29-315. Fire extinguishing system required for certain buildings. (PA 14-187)

Public Act 13-3, An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children’s Safety.

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