



Vision for California Public School Facilities

The California Department of Education envisions school facilities that enhance the achievement of all students and are learner-centered, safe, sustainable, and centers of the community.

Guiding Principles for Implementing the Vision

The siting and design of educational facilities will:

1. Reflect the local educational agency's board-adopted facilities master plan and educational specifications.
2. Result from an open, community-based, and comprehensive planning process including all stakeholders and early dialogue with all involved planning agencies.
3. Accommodate a complete facility supporting the delivery of the adopted educational program, be accessible to all, and be adaptable to future demographic, educational, and community needs.
4. Support students, parents, teachers, and staff in closing achievement gaps and preparing students for the workforce, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.
5. Consider the full spectrum of community facilities and support opportunities for joint use and educational partnerships.
6. Ensure safety from existing and potential hazards and incompatible land uses.
7. Provide a secure environment with a focus on supervision.
8. Create comfortable, attractive, and stimulating environments that support collaboration and diverse learning styles and opportunities.
9. Promote sustainable practices that conserve natural resources, limit greenhouse gas emissions, optimize construction and life cycle costs, and encourage walking and bicycling.
10. Incorporate superior acoustics, indoor air quality, and natural lighting.
11. Respond to current and future information, communication, and technology needs.
12. Support student health, nutrition, and physical fitness.

