

## **New Construction**

### **Goals and Objectives**

A quality program can best function in an environment that is conducive to learning, supports and encourages excellence and provides a safe and comfortable place for students and staff.

Accordingly, the CREC Council establishes the following goals for facilities development:

1. developing a long-range planning and evaluation program;
2. providing the facilities needed to serve all students in CREC programs;
3. providing facilities and equipment that will best support and accommodate the needs of a quality program;
4. designing and constructing all facilities with particular attention to safety, security, and appropriate lighting, heating, ventilation, acoustics, spatial factors and aesthetic appearance;
5. reducing formality and tension by eliminating the undesirable aspects of traditional institutional atmosphere and appearance, to the extent possible;
6. planning for flexible and adaptable spaces through incorporation of features such as moveable walls and multi-purpose facilities, in order to best accommodate present and future needs for instructional areas; and
7. considering the adaptability of facilities to community use.
8. reducing racial, ethnic and economic isolation by providing educational opportunities that may include involvement in such facilities as inter-district magnet schools, intra-district and inter-district public school choice programs, inter-district school building projects and distance learning through the use of technology.
9. maximize student learning and member district use of facilities.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-4a Educational interests of state defined.  
PA 97-290- An Act Enhancing Education Choices and Opportunities.

Policy adopted: June 20, 2006

CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL  
Hartford, Connecticut

## New Construction

### Guidelines

Schools are planned and designed to be used for many years. To provide long-term usefulness to CREC Districts and to justify the expensive investment in a school plant, the following guidelines are suggested for the school building:

1. **FLEXIBILITY:** Modern technology has made available a wide choice of versatile construction materials that will make a building adjustable to future changes in curriculum and teaching methods.
2. **DURABILITY:** Buildings should be constructed of durable materials that are not necessarily expensive. On the other hand, the initial higher cost of good sound materials may be offset by lower operational maintenance expense.
3. **EXPANDIBILITY:** If current population trends continue, most schools will have to be expanded to meet increased enrollments. The building design should provide for the possibility of future additions, 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 (accessibility to public thoroughfares and ample provision for parking), but also to the establishment of good traffic patterns inside the school presently and for expansions.
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL:** Aesthetic values must be considered in planning the total school environment. In order to provide the best possible learning environment, the surroundings should be comfortable, pleasing and safe.
6. **COMPLETENESS:** Upon completion of the project, all areas shall be fully functional for the intended use with equipment and furnishings suitable for extended operation. While planning for the future is highly desirable, adequate resources should be allocated to the original project to ensure that all intended areas are fully functional.