SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY NEEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Policy for: FACILITIES PLANNING		Revision	
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Date Approved by School Committee: 1/11/83	Signature of Chairman: John E. Carroll	Page 1 of 1	

Under state law: Every town must provide and maintain a sufficient number of schoolhouses, properly furnished and conveniently situated for the accomodation of all children therein entitled to attend the public schools.

It is the commitment of the Needham School Committee to develop, maintain, and implement public school facilities plans which will meet the educational needs of the Town, both today and into the future.

Facilities planning, regularly updated to extend several years or more into the future, will be based upon the following primary objectives (while always subject to prevailing economic strictures):

- * To maintain school complexes which are the best possible balance of effective grouping of educational resources, efficient management and operations, and community concerns for the character of the school system.
- * To strive to maintain equivalent physical standards in all school buildings.

An obvious and necessary priority of facilities planning must be to assure sound economic adjustments of available school facilities in accordance with prevailing and projected enrollment trends (see Policy FBB).

The School Committee recognizes, however, that repairs or renovations to correct serious inadequacies in existing school buildings must form a major part of facilities planning, regardless of whether or not enrollments are increasing or decreasing.

Legal Ref: General Laws. . . Ch. 71: S. 68

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Immediate and long-range projections of Needham public school enrollments, by school and grade, will be prepared and updated annually by the School Department. In preparing these projections, the School Department will engage the services of a professional demographer or professional who has the knowledge, skill and ability to provide enrollment data for the ensuing school years. In addition, the School Department will consult with the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen prior to the development of the projections in order to ensure that projections are robust and provide meaningful data for budget and capital planning purposes. Finally, the School Department will consult with the Future School Needs Committee once the projections are prepared.

These enrollment projections serve as the major source material for all longrange planning activities by the School Committee, by School Administration, and by the Town.

Under the direction of the Superintendent, it shall be the responsibility of Director of Financial Operations, in cooperation with the school principals and other appropriate designated administration officials, to compile any and all data which will aid in the preparation of the most accurate projections possible.

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DISTRICT MEETINGS, PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES 2	
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November 19, 2002	

The Needham Public Schools, recognizing that some areas in its school department buildings are inaccessible to individuals with disabilities, adopts the following policy:

All meetings, conferences, programs, and activities in school department buildings are available, without discrimination, to individuals with disabilities as defined by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Whenever an individual with impaired vision seeks to obtain information, the information will be communicated as follows:

A Braille copy of the posting, a tape recording of the notice, or the use of a reader, where necessary, will be provided upon request.*

Whenever an individual with impaired hearing seeks to obtain information under this procedure, the information will be communicated as follows:

An interpreter will provide assistance upon request.*

This policy will be posted in prominent and accessible places in all school department buildings, Town Hall, and the Public Library.

*1330 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492

Telephone: 781-455-0400, extension 203 or 781-455-0424 for TTY service

SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY		FF
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NAMING SCHOOL FACILITIES		
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Date Approved by Signature of Chair:		
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September 11, 2001		

The naming or renaming of school buildings, grounds, adjacent fields, or areas within school buildings is the responsibility of the School Committee.

A community member may propose a naming or renaming by submitting to the School Committee a written summary outlining the merits of the proposal. The proposal will be presented to the School Committee at a regularly scheduled School Committee meeting. The School Committee will vote on the proposal no sooner than the following regularly scheduled School Committee meeting after the name is discussed to allow for a period for public comment.

The School Committee may appoint an external committee to review a proposal.