FACILITIES

Facilities Design and Construction

Site Planning and Development

This policy supersedes Policy 8310.3.

I. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for site planning and development.

II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

- A Philosophy Statement has been added.
- Reference guidelines in section IV & V have been corrected.
- The chart information in section V has been removed.
- A landscaping sub paragraph in section VII.C (Landscaping) has been deleted.
- Legal references have been updated.

III. PHILOSOPHY

The Fairfax County School Board recognizes the importance of good site planning and development strategies that are not just in compliance with State and Local guidelines, but also reinforce the academic program and extracurricular activities, while also increasing the school's place within the community as a resource for recreation programs.

IV. AUTHORITY

Sites shall be planned and developed in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, building codes, and ordinances, including but not limited to the Virginia Statewide Uniform Building Code, the Code of the County of Fairfax, and the regulations of the State Board of Education. Planning and development of sites shall be informed by the recommendations of the *Guidelines for School Facilities in Virginia's Public Schools*, with the understanding the recommendations set forth therein are advisory in nature and are not binding upon the School Board unless set forth in one of the authorities referenced above.

V. SIZE

The minimum size of school sites shall be in accordance with the regulations and recommendations of the *Guidelines for School Facilities in Virginia's Public Schools.* Any requests for waiver of required minimum size shall be approved by the School Board and submitted to the State Department of Education.

VI. SITE DEVELOPMENT

Protection of the environment shall be consideration in school site planning and development. Site development shall support the instructional and extracurricular school program. Community use for educational and recreational purposes shall be considered during site planning and development.

VII. LANDSCAPING

A. Landscaping plans shall be prepared as part of architectural services for new buildings or as may be required by the county governing body.

B. To the extent permitted by site topography and site improvements, and where economically feasible, the site shall be planned and constructed to preserve trees, shrubs, and desirable vegetation where possible.

C. Drought-resistant landscaping techniques and materials will be used to conserve water, and maintenance-free plantings and products will be installed wherever practical to reduce energy consumption and emissions incurred due to mowing and other maintenance activities.

Legal References: Code of Virginia, Sections 22.1-138, 22.1-138.1, 22.1-140, 22.1-141.1.

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Revised:	

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD