

Site Selection And Development

The Governing Board believes that a school site should serve the district's educational needs in accordance with the district's master plan and also show potential for contributing to other community needs. The Board will solicit community input whenever a school site is to be selected.

(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

(cf. 7140 - Architectural and Engineering Services)

(cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)

Before acquiring property for a new school or an addition to an existing school site, the Board shall evaluate the property at a public hearing using state site selection standards. (Education Code 17211)

Agricultural Land

Note: In 82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 130 (1999), the Attorney General opined that a district may construct a school on land designated by a county ordinance for agricultural, open space or rural land use. However, the Board must, by a two-thirds vote pursuant to Government Code 53094, render the ordinance inapplicable to the proposed use of the property. See 9323.2 - Actions by the Board. The exemption can be blocked only by a court determination that the action was arbitrary and capricious.

If the proposed site is in an area designated in a city, county, or city and county general plan for agricultural use and zoned for agricultural production, the Board shall determine all of the following: (Education Code 17215.5)

1. That the district has notified and consulted with the city, county, or city and county within which the prospective site is to be located
2. That the Board has evaluated the final site selection based on all factors affecting the public interest and not limited to selection on the basis of the cost of the land
3. That the district shall attempt to minimize any public health and safety issues resulting from the neighboring agricultural uses that may affect students and employees at the site

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

17006 Definition of self-certifying district

17024 Prior written approval of CDE for selection of school site or construction of building

17070.10-17077.10 Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998

17210-17224 General provisions (school sites)

17240-17245 New Schools Relief Act

17250.10-17250.50 Design-build contracts

17251-17253 Powers concerning buildings and building sites

17260-17268 Plans

17280-17317 Approvals

17565-17592.5 Board duties re management and control of school property

35271 Power to acquire and construct on adjacent property

35275 New school planning and design, re consultation with local recreation and park authorities

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

1263.710-1263.770 Remediation of hazardous substances on property to be acquired by school district

GOVERNMENT CODE

53094 Authority to render zoning ordinances inapplicable

65402 Acquisition or disposition of property

65995-65997 Developer fees

66455.9 Written notices of proposed public school site within development; investigation and report; conditions for acquisition

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

44360 Risk assessment

PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

21000-21177 Implementation of Environmental Quality Act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

14001-14036 Minimum standards

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 14

15000-15209 Review and evaluation of EIRs and negative declarations

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 130 (1999)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CDE, School Facilities Planning Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/dmsbranch/sfpdiv>

Office of Public School Construction: <http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov/>

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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