The Superintendent may complete an annual study of excess capacity in each articulation area to assess a school’s staffing levels and programming and maintenance conditions in the context of its ability to deliver a thriving educational program.

The Superintendent may task District staff with preparing an annual study on schools located within each articulation area which may be considered for closure. The study will include an analysis of the following factors and their alignment to identified thresholds set forth in a separate exhibit to this policy that will initially be prepared by June 30, 2022, and that will be reevaluated annually:

1. Educational program
2. Operating costs
3. Per pupil costs
4. Staffing structures
5. Student dislocation (geographic-transportation)
6. Building capacity
7. Projected enrollment
8. Desirability of site (safety-size-drainage)
9. Condition of physical plant
10. Life expectancy of building
11. Community use of facility

The study containing the analysis of factors listed above will be distributed to the Board by June 30 so that the Board may take action on any school closure no later than November 30 of the same year. The study will be available to the community superintendent for the articulation area for examination by the staff and community.

An initial recommendation for a school’s closure will be shared by the Superintendent to the Board of Education by August 31.

- Notification of the initial recommendation will be shared directly with impacted school staff, families, and area elected officials.
- School-based community meetings will be facilitated by a central office or third-party representative and will include a presentation of the school closure recommendation and rationale, and opportunities for dialogue and engagement.
- The Board shall hold at least one public hearing on the closure recommendation prior to the Board taking action on the recommendation. The date, time, place and purpose of the hearing will be provided to the Board at the time of the Superintendent’s recommendation.
Upon the release of the initial recommendation by the Superintendent, a committee composed of three residents from each affected articulation area will review the Superintendent’s initial recommendation and/or offer alternatives to the Superintendent. This committee will receive both professional and lay input and will be provided staff assistance from the District.

CROSS REFERENCE:

FCB, Closing Schools
4856-5160-4512, v. 1