



Policy Section: **Facilities and Equipment**

Policy Name: **Facilities**

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Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) to build and operate safe and accessible facilities that utilize innovative, cost-effective, energy-efficient, and environmentally sound maintenance, operating, and construction practices to maximize learning opportunities for students.

Rationale

1. A school is an educational institution. It is imperative that schools and other facilities operated by KPDSB provide a superior learning and working environment for students and employees. By improving the operating condition in schools and maintaining KPDSB schools in a high-quality state, students will be placed in an environment where success and opportunities will be greatly enhanced.
2. KPDSB has a legal and social responsibility to ensure the highest degree of accessibility possible to its facilities and to constantly strive to improve accessibility.
3. The operation of a facility for teaching and learning must project and deliver the message that KPDSB is environmentally conscious, energy conscious, and an energy-efficient organization which is financially responsible and accountable.
4. The safety of KPDSB students and staff is paramount. All caretaking and maintenance practices will be designed and implemented with safety as a fundamental consideration.

Guidelines

1. School mechanical, electrical, and heating systems must be operated and maintained in a manner which ensures maximum efficiency from a financial perspective. These practices are intended to ensure that systems operate at a level which minimizes energy consumption and maximizes system efficiency.

2. When undertaking major capital projects, KPDSB will evaluate system options on the following criteria:
 - Design will ensure that learning and working conditions are given the highest priority;
 - Energy efficiency design innovation will be encouraged;
 - Design will endeavour to minimize environmental impact; and
 - Design will meet or exceed current accessibility standards.
3. A site based custodial and/or maintenance delivery model will be utilized to ensure facilities are maintained and cleaned to a high standard and to minimize the requirement for major facilities renovation.
4. The KPDSB will maintain an accessibility plan and strive toward making all KPSB facilities accessible, subject to the availability of funds for this purpose.
5. All caretaking and maintenance practices will be designed to ensure that there will be minimal environmental impact.
6. Playground equipment will be inspected and maintained to a high level by school maintenance personnel. School playgrounds will be kept clean of litter.

Specific Provisions

1. Planning

- a) Annually, the Director of Education, or Designate, will undertake a Quality Management inspection to evaluate caretaking services and overall school maintenance conditions for each school
- b) Principals will meet annually with the Facilities Department Assistant Manager, Facility Planning and Development, and/or the Assistant Manager of Facility Operations and Maintenance to provide input into the establishment of priorities for renovations and improvements to the school building(s) and site. Principals will also consult with School Council and locally elected Trustees in establishing priorities for renovation and improvement.

2. Monitoring

It is the responsibility of all senior staff to monitor and evaluate compliance with this Policy throughout their daily interactions with schools.