

# Senate Select Committee on State School Facilities

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## Senate Select Committee on State School Facilities

- **JURISDICTION:** The Select Committee is authorized and directed to research, analyze and develop policy reforms for the state school facility construction programs to ensure that state school facility infrastructure investments are thoughtfully planned and that the integrity of the school facility construction bond dollars are protected. Further, the Select Committee shall seek program reforms that give priority to student academic needs and building sustainability. The Committee shall examine the current state school facility governance structure and make recommendations for a structure that lends itself to transparency, accountability and seamless coordination between state departments. The Committee shall also review the partnership between state and local school facility planning and financing to strengthen outcomes and streamline processes.



# Senate Select Committee on School Facilities

- Alan Lowenthal, chair
- Roy Ashburn
- Denise Ducheny
- Loni Hancock
- Bob Huff
- Gloria Negrete McLeod
- Alex Padilla
- Lois Wolk



## A Vision for California's Infrastructure Investment

Informational Hearing  
July 14, 2009

*The need for leadership for future infrastructure investments*

Jeffrey Vincent, University of California, Berkeley  
Thomas Blurock, IBI Group Architects  
Lettie Boggs, Colbi Technologies, Inc.

*Learning environments enhancing the education of our future workforce*

George Copa, New Designs for Learning

*The academic and monetary value of sustainable learning environments*

Bill Savidge, West Contra Costa Unified School District  
Guy Mehula, Los Angeles Unified School District\*

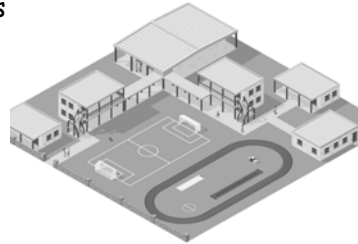
*Defining the vision*

Kathleen Moore, California Department of Education

# July 14, 2009 Hearing Outcomes

## State Responsibility in Public School Facilities (Jeffrey Vincent, UC Berkeley)

- Ensure educational appropriateness
- Ensure student safety
- Ensure equity
- Assist with LEA capital costs
- Ensure wise investment



# Current Challenges

- Expect 4 million more students mainly in older neighborhoods
- Overly complex state process inhibits innovation and collaboration
- Relocatable classrooms use more than 50 years worth of capital investment dollars on 25 years worth of buildings. We must look at life cycle costs when calculating the best use of investment dollars.
- Under SFP funding model districts are unable to meet CDE requirements for Minimum Essential Facilities without local augmentation.
- Large schools based on economy of scale rather than best learning environment - students thrive on connectedness
- Modernization Program misses educational program changes, needs and opportunities
- High income school districts spend significantly more on school facilities and include more educational enhancements to school facilities.



# Recommendations

- Establish a vision and policy framework to connect high quality educational outcomes; community reinvestment; sustainable regional growth and sound infrastructure investment
- Align facility funding with educational priorities
- Create small learning communities for student connectedness
- Ensure accountability and equity in state school facility funding by establishing a database on facilities and assess state allocation equity
- Create incentives for local agency collaborative planning
- Streamline and coordinate state agency roles
- Evaluate outcomes



# More Recommendations

- Research shows green buildings enhance teacher retention and student attendance performance
- De-link high performance incentives from per pupil grants and link incentives to actual costs.
- Streamline documentation, verification requirements for HPS



# Coming Attractions

November, 2009

Joint Hearing of the Senate Select Committee on School Facilities  
and the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee

*"School Facilities at the Center of Sustainable Communities"*

- o Department of Education Roundtable Report and Recommendations
- o United States Partnership for Sustainable Communities:  
HUD/DOT/EPA
- o Steven Bingler, Concordia LLC - Community Centered Planning and  
Design

