

NEW HAVEN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 058-0405

Collaborative High Performance Schools (CHPS)

Criteria for School Construction and Modernization

WHEREAS, Students learn best in an environment that is comfortable, healthy, naturally lit and well maintained, and studies have indicated that student achievement is greater and attendance higher when these conditions are met; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of New Haven USD schools are in need of renovation to reach this standard of comfort and efficiency, and many sites are planned for construction and modernization to accommodate the students served by the District; and,

WHEREAS, schools incur a substantial amount on energy costs each year, and studies show that energy efficient facilities can reduce energy costs up to 25 percent; and,

WHEREAS, building or renovating a school provides a unique opportunity to move beyond standard designs to create school facilities, whose tangible benefits have been measured in the form of increased student attendance, higher test scores, reduced operating costs, elevated teacher and staff retention, and an improved indoor environment by providing cleaner air, better acoustics, and natural light; and,

WHEREAS, an integrated design approach can often take advantage of energy savings that become feasible when the interaction between separate building elements, such as windows, lighting, and mechanical systems are considered; and,

WHEREAS, the development of comprehensive sustainable design criteria and the necessary implementation infrastructure for the construction and modernization of existing NHUSD schools is compatible with Measure A, and the NHUSD's high performance standards; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the New Haven Unified School District directs the Superintendent and her designee, in consultation with school facility design consultants, to develop more resource

efficient design criteria for use in the construction and modernization of existing District schools and campuses.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the design criteria developed in consultation with the CHPS, and including such measures as site orientation, energy efficient envelope, lighting, and space conditioning; water efficiency; waste management; material resource efficiency; and heat island mitigation measure, shall be utilized by architects in the design development of construction and modernization projects based on the unique scope of each site.