



NH Department of Education

Bureau of School Safety & Facilities

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Factors to Consider When Selecting a School Construction Site

| 1. LAND USE | |
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| What is the current use of the property? | |
| What has been the past use of the property in the last 100 years? | |
| What is the current zoning? | |
| Has the planning board been notified about the project? | |
| Date of notification: | |
| What is the character of the surrounding area? (Residential, Industrial, Commercial, Agricultural, Urban, Sub-Urban, Rural) | |
| Will the site offer an opportunity for outdoor educational activities? | |
| Is the site located so it can be integrated for use with the community recreational activities and functions? | |
| Does the site allow ample room for recreational and physical education activities for the entire school enrollment? | |
| 2. TOPOGRAPHY | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Level <input type="checkbox"/> Sloping <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed | |
| What is the maximum slope? | |
| 3. GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS | |
| Have test borings been taken? | |
| Date of test: | |
| What were the results? | |

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| Are rock outcroppings visible on the surface? | |
| Do tree roots appear to have difficulty growing into the ground or are large amount of roots visible on the surface? | |
| Description of soils: | |
| Has a percolation test been conducted? | |
| What were the results? | |

| 4. HYDROLOGY | |
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| Where does the surface water runoff currently go? | |
| What is the distance to and name of nearest stream, lake, or other body of water? | |
| Will the site storm water system be connected to an existing municipal system? | |
| What is the estimated depth to the water table? | |

| 5. WETLANDS | |
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| What is the estimated number of acres of wetlands, including setbacks? | |
| Have wetlands been delineated by a qualified professional? | |

| 6. WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION | |
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| What is the general description of the wildlife and vegetation? | |
| Are there any endangered species? | |
| Are there any ecologically sensitive areas? | |
| Will the site provide opportunity for educating students in the conservation of natural resources on the site or in the immediate area? | |
| Can the site be used to provide means of educating children in ways of combating pollution of our natural resources? | |

| 7. NATURAL HAZARDS | |
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| Is the site in a seismic zone? | |
| Is any part of the property located in a 100 year flood plain? | |
| Is any part of the property located within the inundation area of a dam? | |
| What is the source and distance to water for firefighting? | |
| What is the distance to the nearest fire station? | |

| 8. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS | |
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| Please note that a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) is strongly recommended. | |
| Is the site or any adjacent property listed by any local, state, or federal agency as a location of known or suspected contamination? | |
| Is the site or any adjacent property know to have been used for industrial activity in the past? | |
| Is the site or any adjacent property known or suspected of being a disposal site for hazardous materials? | |
| Is there any visible evidence of the presence hazardous materials on or adjacent to the site? Describe, if so. | |
| Are there any Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) known to be present on the site? | |

| 9. CULTURAL RESOURCES | |
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| Is the site located within a designated historic district? | |
| Are there any existing structures on the site? | |
| Are any existing structures on the state or national registry? | |

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| What is the age of the oldest existing structure? | |
| Are any existing structures thought to be of historic or architectural interest? | |
| Are there any known or suspected archeologically sensitive areas on or adjacent to the site? | |

| 10. UTILITIES | |
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| What is the servicing power company? | |
| What is the distance to the nearest existing electric service? | |
| Is natural gas available? If so, through what company? | |
| Is municipal water available? | |
| Is municipal sewer available? | |

| 11. BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS | |
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| Purchase price: | |
| Estimated development costs: | |
| Estimated utility costs: | |
| Other costs: | |
| If applying for building aid, does the site meet Ed 321.03 – Minimum Standards for School Sites? | |