

Descriptor Term:
CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES, GROUNDS
AND OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

Descriptor Code:
9.2000

Legal References: G.S. 1-538.1, 115C-12(34)(a), -36, -40, -47, -276(c), -288(f), -307(h), -523, -524

Cross References: 1.5100/4.2000/7.2700 Student Safety; 9.000 Planning to Address Facility Needs

The board strives to maintain facilities, grounds and outdoor equipment in good condition in order to:

- continue to provide a safe, orderly and inviting educational environment;
- protect financial investments in the facility;
- reduce the need for major repair; and
- facilitate the conservation of energy resources.

All staff, students and visitors to the school are expected to use reasonable care to prevent property damage to facilities, grounds and outdoor equipment. The principal and teachers shall instruct students in the proper care of public property. Anyone who willfully or carelessly damages school property may be held financially liable, as provided by law, including G.S. 115C-523.

Principals shall inspect school buildings, facilities, grounds and outdoor equipment for health, fire and safety hazards on a regular basis and as required by law and post proper signs and warnings of any hazards as necessary to alert the public, staff and students of those hazards. Any staff member who observes any potential hazards shall immediately notify their principal or immediate supervisor. Principals shall immediately notify the Director of Maintenance of repairs needed to facilities, grounds and outdoor equipment in order to meet safety standards.

The board recognizes that chromated copper arsenate-treated wood ("arsenate-treated wood") has been found to pose health hazards to students and has been removed from the marketplace for residential uses. Thus, the board prohibits the purchase or acceptance of arsenate-treated wood for future use on school grounds. To the extent possible, the principal or designee shall ensure that existing arsenate-treated wood in playground equipment is sealed.

The maintenance department shall make reasonable efforts to maintain the facilities, grounds and outdoor equipment in good condition and to make needed repairs.

The superintendent is directed to ensure that facilities are evaluated and inspected in accordance with the facilities inventory as provided in board Policy 9.0000, Planning for Facility Needs.