DIVISION 0 - GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Division contains the following Elements:

1.1 General.
1.2 Sustainability, (Green Architecture, LEED)
1.3 Site.
1.4 Building.
1.5 Accessibility.
1.6 Environmental.
1.7 Enhance Hurricane Protection Area (EHPA)

1.1 GENERAL


1. The Educational Specifications (Ed Specs) contain the project specific program and design requirements, including detailed space descriptions, special environmental considerations, equipment to be housed and built-ins required.

2. The Design Criteria defines the special needs of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), including requirements clarifying or exceeding applicable codes to be used by the Architect/Engineer (A/E) and other Design Professionals. The Design Criteria is organized to follow the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) 16-Division format. The divisions and sections contained within the Design Criteria, relate to corresponding sections in the M-DCPS Master Specifications Guidelines. The A/E shall adhere to the directions in the Design Criteria when developing the construction documents for the project.

3. The Specifications for each project are prepared by the A/E, not M-DCPS. The A/E is required to edit the Master Specification Guidelines (a.k.a. M-DCPS Spec Guide) provided to them by M-DCPS so that it is project specific. These guidelines contain requirements mandated by M-DCPS that are not found in commercial master specification texts or in specifications used in ordinary commercial and residential construction. M-DCPS specification guidelines contain numerous requirements that are essential to the M-DCPS instructional, administrative, maintenance and custodial operations. In editing the guidelines, it is incumbent upon the A/E to retain these special M-DCPS requirements. When in doubt as to how to edit, contact M-DCPS Office of Facilities Design and Standards. The A/E shall understand that these specification guidelines are only a starting point; they must be edited to describe each project’s scope and quality of work without deviating from the inherent intent and essential practices of the specification guidelines, the Design Criteria, the project Educational Specifications, and the law. Because the guidelines provided by M-DCPS are rarely used in the same calendar year in which they were written or updated, it is the responsibility of each A/E to conform to current code, laws and standards, and to update references to the governing year as needed. The number of listed products and manufacturers may be edited to no fewer than two. The inclusion of additional products or manufacturers requires written acceptance from M-DCPS Office of Facilities Design and Standards.
4. The Board approved Facilities Lists provides the A/E information on the type, size and quantity of each space required for each type of facility, including number of student stations, and overall net and gross square footages for each facility type. The Facilities Lists also defines internal configurations such as school-within-a-school, and interdisciplinary clusters.

5. The (NIC) FF&E list identifies the furniture, fixtures and equipment supplied by M-DCPS. The A/E shall develop a comprehensive layout plan that contains all In-Contract (IC) and NIC FF&E items. This layout shall provide and be coordinated with all utility requirements serving these items. A copy of the layout, at 1/4 inch = 1-foot scale, shall be provided to M-DCPS for their review and approval no later than at Phase II Design Review, or Phase II/III 50% review, when a separate Phase II submission is not provided.

6. All MEP Drawings (electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc.) shall be coordinated with the FF&E Plans.

7. The A/E shall comply with all applicable Codes, governing regulations and State Statutes.

8. All Design Standard references requiring an acceptance by M-DCPS shall imply M-DCPS Office of Facilities Design and Standards.

B. Deviations from M-DCPS Design Standards during design or construction require proper justification in writing to M-DCPS Facilities Design and Standards for review and possible written acceptance prior to implementation. The A/E shall submit to the M-DCPS Project Manager at each design Phase, a letter certifying that the design documents comply with M-DCPS Design Standards. Any previously approved deviation or substitution shall be identified in this letter from the A/E.

C. All requests for substitutions, “approved equals”, or deviations from M-DCPS Design Standards, shall first be reviewed by the Architect of Record and the Design Criteria Professional, when applicable. All requests shall include a detailed written justification, containing benefits to the District and the cost differential. All requests shall be submitted with the appropriate form to the M-DCPS Project Manager for review and possible written approval by the M-DCPS Facilities Operation (Maintenance) and the Division of Facilities Design and Standards.

D. The design of a facility shall make use of Frugal Construction Standards issued by SMART Schools Clearinghouse, except as noted in M-DCPS Design Standards.

E. In renovations and remodeling, consult with the school’s Administrative Staff to retain items of historic value.

F. All M-DCPS projects shall be designed utilizing strategies and concepts that provide a safe learning environment for students, staff and visitors. The A/E shall utilize strategies consistent with “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and the “Florida Safe School Design Guidelines” documents available from Florida Department of Education website.

1.2 SUSTAINABILITY

A. M-DCPS recognizes the importance of Green/Sustainable/High Performance Building initiatives such as California High Performance Schools (CHPS) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) established by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). These initiatives serve as a guide and reference for building owners, designers and builders to ensure that future buildings increasingly incorporate the “best practices” that will in time, lead to a sustainable environment for all.

B. M-DCPS urges architects, engineers, design professionals, contractors and others to utilize these concepts in all M-DCPS facilities. M-DCPS expects the project team to propose Green/Sustainable/High Performance Building concepts; products, materials, equipment, construction methods, and other related factors for review and approval, even if they differ from the M-DCPS Design Standards. The A/E shall maintain a LEED score sheet for every project. Formal LEED certification will only be required if the A/E is commissioned for this activity on a per-project basis.

C. Products that are Energy Star qualified may be evaluated and presented to M-DCPS Division of Facilities Design and Standards for consideration and possible approval. See www.energystar.gov for description of this EPA/DOE initiative that applies to some windows, doors, roofs, appliances, water coolers and lighting items.

D. M-DCPS concern for recycling and other environmental matters applies to all products and their manufacturing processes. Materials or manufacturing processes harmful to the environment should be avoided if possible. M-DCPS encourages the use of recycled materials and products. The A/E shall specify such items wherever feasible. Do not specify woods from endangered rain forests or other environmentally sensitive regions.

1.3 SITE

A. Site design shall address the relationships of site elements to the building, streets, and neighboring properties. The A/E shall coordinate with Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to ensure that matters regarding environmental issues, health, safety and welfare, off-site impact, and effects on adjacent properties are properly handled according to all applicable Codes.

B. Site design shall optimize the use of the available area to accommodate program requirements. To the greatest extent possible the A/E shall develop a compact building footprint and provide the largest possible open/green areas for use as play fields and for future building expansion. As such, building design shall reflect the following solutions:
   1. Elementary Schools shall be a minimum of 2-stories tall.
   2. K-8 Center, Middle Schools and Senior High Schools shall be a minimum of 3-stories tall.

C. Orient and locate playfields, parking, service drives, drop-off zones, and bus loading zones to reduce the cost of connecting elements among program requirements without requiring pedestrians, disabled students or disabled visitors to cross vehicular traffic lanes.

D. Site and building design shall include:
1. The main student entry into the school located next to the administration area and containing the following:
   a. A paved standing area for 15 percent of the facilities design capacity (using 7 SF per student), or according to the Educational Specifications, whichever is greater. A minimum of 1/3 of this area shall be covered for use during inclement weather.
   b. A separate entrance, main drop-off zone, and driveway, 20 to 22 ft wide, for private vehicles and mini-buses, paved, fully curbed, and with covered accessibility to the facility. Provide a minimum of 50 linear feet of covered walkway along this drop-off area.
   c. A separate M-DCPS school bus entrance, loading zone, and driveway, 24 feet wide, and the length of the drop-off sized as determined by M-DCPS Transportation Main Office and the Miami-Dade County Public Works Department for the expected number of buses. Provide a minimum of 150 linear feet of covered walkway along bus drop-off area. It shall be paved, fully curbed, with covered accessibility from the facility. Locate next to the main student entry or to a secondary student entry.

2. See Division 2 - Landscape requirements.

3. Faculty, administration, student and visitor parking areas shall comply with the FBC and the following:
   a. For faculty and staff at Primary Learning Centers (PLC) and Early Childhood Centers (ECC) increase FBC requirements to provide 1.5 spaces for each member. For faculty and staff at all other school facilities increase FBC requirements to provide 1.25 spaces for each member.
   b. For students in grade 11 and 12, increase FBC requirements to provide 1 space for every 5 students.
   c. Parking areas shall be fully curbed, except behind wheel stops. Use cast-in-place concrete or reinforced extruded concrete (not asphalt) curbing.
   d. Locate parking areas to provide safe and direct access to an appropriate designated entry.
   e. Parking areas shall be separate and not be part of the road system or be used as student drop-off areas. Provide efficient use of available land for parking areas with double loaded parking schemes, when possible, to reduce amount of paved areas and increase percentage of pervious surfaces.
   f. Protect planted areas next to driveways, drop-off areas and parking lots from vehicular traffic with concrete curbing, bollards, wheel stops or other effective means accepted by M-DCPS and complying with applicable drainage requirements.
   g. Provide separate staff parking and student parking areas, each with fencing.
   h. Parking garages will be considered on a per-project basis when feasible.

4. Provide concrete sidewalks from bus and car drop-off zones and from staff, visitor, student and accessible parking areas to the facility entrances.
   a. Size widths according to use, but not less than 8 feet wide.
   b. Provide similar access from the primary public way entry to the administration area.
   c. Access from a secondary public way to the facility may be required by M-DCPS on a per condition basis.

5. An independent service drive, 2 lanes wide, shall access a fenced service yard containing a loading zone.
a. Locate the service yard next to kitchen receiving, kitchen storage rooms, main mechanical and electrical rooms, and custodial receiving.
b. The service yard shall contain parking for kitchen personnel and maintenance vehicles according to program requirements.
c. Provide a minimum of 1 dumpster location for trash and garbage based on number of students, and 1 dumpster location for recycling of cardboard and plastics.
   1) To determine the number of garbage dumpster pads, calculate 1 cu. yd. for each 100 students and using 8 cu. yd. dumpsters.
   2) Provide a 10 foot x 10 foot concrete pad for each dumpster.
   3) Verify dumpster requirements with M-DCPS Department of District Inspections, Operations and Emergency Management.
   4) Dumpsters shall not be located closer than 40 feet from the kitchen-receiving door.
   5) Provide easy access for refuse pickup.
   6) Dumpster pad shall drain by sloping it at 1/8” slope directly to a suitable green-space or as required by DERM. No other surface shall to be traversed.
   7) See Division 15 for additional plumbing requirements.
d. Provide a loading zone in the service yard for 2 (18-wheel) tractor-trailer delivery trucks and a 50-foot radius turning area. Trucks parked at the loading zone shall not block access to other parking spaces, vehicular driveways or access to other parts of the facility.
e. Provide for direct access to the overhead coiling doors at the cafeteria stage storage and auditorium stage storage.
f. Locate the service yard to reduce its effects on both the surrounding off-site properties and the on-site facilities. Major concerns are visual impact, noise, odors and traffic. When the service yard is located adjacent to private property or public right-of-ways provide a masonry wall 6-feet high or greater, to screen the service yard from the surrounding area. See Division 2 - Fences for service yard gates and visual screening at service yards.
g. Allocate space for service vehicles to access needed facilities and equipment, and to maneuver without creating a hazard to parked vehicles, stationary equipment and buildings.
h. Provide column protection, concrete curbs, bumpers and/or bollards to protect equipment, walls, fences and roof overhangs.

E. Exterior areas of the facility shall be designed to prevent roosting of birds. Do not utilize structural systems such as open web joists or other systems which provide ledges that are accessible to birds. Attention should also be placed on light fixtures, speakers, cameras, and other architectural elements where birds may roost.

F. The central chilled water plant shall be placed in a cost-effective location and not based on aesthetics alone. Minimize piping runs.

G. Provide a compact building design to accommodate future expansion by addition(s) or by portable classrooms.
   1. A specific area or areas next to the building shall be designated on the site plan for future expansion or portable classrooms. Keep this area clear of underground utilities, easements, circulation paths and other encroachments.
2. Areas identified for future expansion shall incorporate a design solution with accessibility, security, utility servicing and control/monitoring of these areas available from the main school facility.
3. Provide utility stub outs for future expansion according to program requirements and other requirements identified in Divisions 13, 15 and 16.
4. See Division 2 for additional site requirements.

H. At all new schools and new addition projects, provide a 4’ x 8’ or an 8’ x 8’ construction sign prior to the start of construction. Obtain sample layout, applicable size and any additional requirements from the M-DCPS Project Manager.

1.4 BUILDING

A. Educational spaces used by student in Pre-K through 1st grade shall be located on the street level.

B. The design of the project shall address:
   1. Safety of the students, faculty, staff and visitors.
   2. Enhancement of the instructional processes.
   3. Resistance to unauthorized intrusion.
   4. Provision for different day and evening functions with differing circulation patterns.
   5. Life cycle cost reductions.
   7. Ease of pedestrian and vehicular circulation within and around buildings.

C. Structural Design shall comply with Code requirements and wind loads as stipulated by FBC and the Uniform Fire Safety Standards as adopted by the State Fire Marshall. Design shall be based on American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)-7, with a wind load importance factor for educational facilities of 1.15.
   1. The A/E shall submit to the Building Code Consultant (BCC) calculations signed and sealed by a Florida Registered Professional Engineer, establishing wind velocity pressure values complying with ASCE-7, for their review and acceptance.
   2. For additions and new construction projects, use ASCE-7 Exposure Category "C" for wind design.
   3. According to ASCE-7, occupancy types noted as “Educational Facilities”, are classified as Category 3.

D. Slopes.
   1. Slope exterior horizontal surfaces to drain away from interior or enclosed spaces and according to SREF and accessibility Codes. Provide a minimum slope as follows:
      a. 1/2 inch per foot at exterior windowsills.
      b. Not less than 1/8 inch per foot slope at, but not limited to:
         1) Exterior covered walkways, exterior corridors, exterior stair treads, landings, sidewalks, or other exterior walking surfaces.
         2) Parking lots, paved courts, receiving areas, passenger drop-off areas and any other paved areas.
   2. See Division 2 for earthwork slopes at landscaped areas.
   3. See Division 7 for slopes at new roofs, re-roofing solutions and parapets.
E. Exterior and interior walking surfaces shall be made slip resistant.

F. At exterior doors, provide overhead weather protection with roof overhangs, concrete eyebrows or recesses. Slope down and away from both building and pedestrian traffic. Overhead protection shall extend at least 12 inches on both sides beyond the door jambs, projecting at least 3 feet from face of the door, and not more than 2 feet above the head of the door.

G. Exterior doors shall follow accessibility guidelines and shall be connected to accessible walkways leading to a public way.

H. Corridors shall be at least 6 feet wide except as noted below:
   1. Corridors serving classrooms shall be at least 8 feet wide.
   2. Double loaded corridors serving 8 or more classrooms shall be at least 10 feet wide, except at PLCs or ECCs.

I. Exterior corridors and covered walkways shall have the bottom of overhead weather protection no higher than 9 feet above the designated line defining the width of the exterior corridor. Covered width dimension shall extend a minimum of 1 foot beyond the width of the walkway.

J. Provide suitable roof access, for personnel and equipment, by means of slope ladders, roof hatches or “penthouse” doors located within staff controlled interior spaces of the building. See Divisions 5 and 7 for additional requirements.

K. Building design shall not permit unauthorized access to roof surfaces from adjacent structures or trees. Design shall also avoid unnecessary recesses, blind corners, crawl spaces or other design elements that would make security difficult.

L. Design of student occupied spaces shall avoid use of interior columns to facilitate good visibility and provide greater flexibility in room arrangement.

M. Custodial Closets.
   1. Custodial closets shall be located so that no more than 150 feet of travel is necessary from the custodial closet to the primary entrance to any occupied space. At least one (1) custodial closet shall be provided for each floor and each building wing, regardless of floor area.
   2. See Appendix for typical custodial closet layout with minimum dimensions.
   3. Custodial closet doors shall swing in the direction of exit travel to maximize wall storage in the room.

N. See Appendix for theater sightline design.

O. See Appendix for stage curtains, microphone layouts and pipe grid design.

P. Toilet Rooms.
   1. Conveniently locate toilet rooms in each building level to serve a proportionate number of persons at the different types of occupancy classifications.
a. Provide group toilets adjacent to gymnasiums, auditoriums, dining rooms and cafeterias.
b. Provide toilets for faculty and staff, separate from student toilets, on each floor of the building in each major wing and according to program requirements.

2. Access to student group toilet rooms shall be from interior secured corridors. Provide door-less entries to allow supervision for the safety of users, and partitions to restrict sight lines.

3. Individual student toilets shall be accessible only from inside of classrooms or as specifically required by the Educational Specifications.

4. Access to individual public use toilet rooms shall be from supervised areas only.

Q. Stairs.
1. Exterior stairs shall be cast-in-place sealed concrete, with recessed full-length metal anti-slip nosings, at least 3 inches wide, and anchored the full-width of each tread and landing. The nosing shall be installed aligned with the finished edge of the concrete tread.

2. Interior stairs shall be cast-in-place or concrete filled metal pan stairs. Concrete shall be sealed and have recessed full-length metal anti-slip nosings at least 3 inches wide, anchored the full-width of each tread and landing.

3. “Feature”, “monumental” or “grand” stairs may be of structural materials other than concrete with appropriate finishes, when approved by M-DCPS Facilities Design and Standards.

4. Do not design interior or exterior stairs with open risers.

5. Stairs shall have a change of direction of at least 90 degrees at floors and at each intermediate landing.

6. In facilities housing pre-K through grade 5, the handrail design for stairs shall incorporate two separate handrail heights.
   a. The height of the top handrail shall be 34 to 38 inches and have an outside diameter of 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 inch.
   b. The height of the lower handrail shall be 26 inches with an outside diameter not to exceed 1-1/4 inch.

R. Acoustical Requirements.
1. Definitions.
   a. STC: Sound Transmission Class (125 - 4000 Hz) Note: The lower the number the less effective the rating.
   b. NRC: Noise Reduction Coefficient (250, 500, 1000 and 2000 Hz) rating of sound absorption. Ratings in program requirements are minimums. The lower the NRC, the less absorptive the material. The treatment of the spaces shall reduce the reflection, flutter and echo in the space.
   c. RT: Reverberation Time in seconds (500/1000 Hz) following the national average requirement in mid-range frequencies for various occupancies.
   d. RC: Background noise level applied across eight octave bands- 63Hz, 125Hz, 250Hz, 500Hz, 1000Hz, 2KHz, 4KHz, and 8KHz.

2. The A/E shall employ a qualified Acoustic Consultant to perform an acoustic design for all spaces and monitor construction of these areas to ensure compliance with M-DCPS Design Criteria requirements. The Acoustic Consultant shall be a member in good standing with the National Council of Acoustic Consultants (NCAC). Under no
circumstance shall acoustic treatment be applied without expert evaluation. Upon completion of the work and before Substantial Completion, the A/E’s Acoustical Consultant shall perform an acoustical analysis of the work and provide a report certifying that all acoustical requirements have been satisfied.

3. Spaces shall be acoustically treated in a cost-effective manner by using space volume, geometry, sound controlling materials and construction methods to control reverberation, echo and deadness, and optimize the intended function of the space.

4. Special attention shall be given to acoustical treatment in spaces for speech and hearing-impaired instruction. Avoid adjacency of instructional spaces for the hearing impaired to electrical, telephone and mechanical rooms and similar use rooms where sound and electromagnetic fields would occur, which may interfere with instruction for speech and the hearing impaired.

5. Substitutions or revisions during construction shall comply with original analysis or may be used if they comply with a revised acoustical analysis of the space involved.

6. Spaces containing noise-producing activities, including exterior mechanical areas, shall be sound insulated to minimize transmission of sound.

7. Folding panel partitions subdividing instructional spaces shall be rated equal to surrounding construction, but not less than STC 48.

8. Folding panel partitions subdividing auditorium spaces shall be not less than STC 48.

9. Accordion folding partitions subdividing administrative spaces shall be rated not less than STC 40.

10. Occupied spaces shall receive appropriate acoustic treatment to control undesirable noise within the spaces.
   a. Provide special attention to large spaces, including art labs, music suite, media centers, dining spaces, little theaters, multi-purpose rooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums and mechanical equipment spaces.
   b. Acoustical treatments shall be located a minimum of 7'-2" above finish floor.

11. Design to achieve room criterion (RC) curves for acceptable HVAC noise levels according to ASHRAE.


13. Sound Rating Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPACE DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>STC RATING</th>
<th>RC</th>
<th>RT (occupied)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Classrooms and Laboratories.</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Music.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) Piano/Guitar Lab.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>0.6-0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Band Classroom.</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>0.8-1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Vocal Classroom/Music Lab</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>1.3 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Ensemble and Practice rooms</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>30-35</td>
<td>0.4-0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Auditorium.</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>1.0-1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Separation elements</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Language Arts Labs</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>0.5-0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Mechanical Rooms</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. All administrative offices</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>30-35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>including Principals, Assisting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principals, Directors, Counselors,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
   |   Itinerants, Bookkeeping and
General Considerations

Teacher Planning.

h. Media Center reading room 52 25-30 0.5-0.7
i. Closed Circuit TV Suite, including Production Studio, Control Room, Editing Rooms, Workshop.

j. P.E. instructional spaces 52 30-35
k. Toilets (individual and group) 46
l. Food Service areas including, Kitchen, Food Prep and Serving Areas

m. Resource rooms and skills labs 48 30-35
n. Dining Rooms. 48 30-40 0.6-0.8
o. Gymnasiums. 2.0 max.

S. A/E specifications shall include the following:
   1. Powder and pneumatic actuated shot-type fasteners shall not be used to provide support for construction elements located overhead. These type fasteners may be used on a limited basis to fasten electrical junction boxes and conduits up to 1-1/4” in diameter. For any other overhead support use, prior written approval must be obtained from M-DCPS Facilities Design and Standards on a per project basis.
   2. A/E shall specify that the Contractor shall use mechanical-type fasteners to support construction elements suspended overhead from the structure. These include, but are not limited to, cast-in-place anchors, expansion anchors, sleeve anchors, and screw anchors. Under no circumstance shall drilling into pre-tensioned or post-tensioned structural members shall be permitted unless first approved in writing by A/E’s for each location.
   3. In Remodeling/Renovation Projects, powder and pneumatic actuated fastening systems shall not be used when the public, staff and students are in the immediate area of construction.

T. Obtaining M-DCPS authorization is mandatory for torch cutting at existing facilities. At least one person equipped with a fire extinguisher shall be within 10 ft of torch cutting and with full view of work area. The fire extinguisher shall bear inspection and certification labels dated within the last 12 months.

U. Exterior and interior materials shall be durable, vandal resistant, easily maintained, environmentally friendly and within the limits set by functional and life-cycle cost analysis requirements.

1.5 ACCESSIBILITY

A. Provide accessibility in accordance with the latest requirements of:
   1. State Requirements for Educational Facilities (SREF)
   2. Florida Building Code (FBC)
   3. Program requirements.
   5. Florida Statutes - Sections 553.501-553.513.
   6. Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) - Florida Accessibility Code for Building Construction.
   7. Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines Requirements (ADAAG).
8. Other requirements of Authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ).
9. The most stringent requirements of ADA, DCA, ADAAG or other applicable accessibility codes for any specific item shall be used.

B. Facilities serving children shall comply with Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities, Children's Facilities by the Architectural & Transportation Barriers Compliance Board and the Department of Justice, and the following:

1. Definitions:
   a. "Children" is defined as students in grades pre-K through grade 5.
   b. "Adults" is defined as faculty, staff, parents, students in grades 6 through 12, and the general public using public educational facilities. Students housed in vocational/technical centers are also defined as "adults".

2. Accessible Doors at Facilities accommodation Children.
   a. Vision panels shall be provided in classroom doors only when required by Code.

3. Libraries and Media Centers.
   a. At least 2 percent, but no less than 1 unit of fixed seating, tables, or study carrels shall be provided for the disabled.
   b. Facilities that house pre-K through grade 3 shall meet the following criteria:
      1) Work surface height shall be a maximum of 30 inches.
      2) Minimum under-counter clearance shall be 27 inches high, 19 inches deep and 30 inches wide.
      3) There shall be a minimum clear aisle width of 44 inches throughout the accessible portion of the Library and Media Center.
      4) At checkout areas at least one lane shall provide a counter with a maximum height of 30 inches.
      5) Electronic card catalogs, magazine displays, and dictionary stands shall have a maximum height of 36 inches.

4. Food service lines, tables and seating areas shall meet the following criteria:
   a. Service lines shall have a minimum clear width of 44 inches between the tray slides and aisle control bars.
   b. If self-service shelves are provided, at least one shelf must be within a horizontal distance of 12 inches.
   c. Tableware, dishware, condiment, food and beverage display shelves, dispensing devices and top of tray slides shall not exceed 20 inches above the finished floor.
   d. At least 2 percent, but no less than 1 unit, shall be provided for the disabled.
      1) Table height shall be a maximum of 30 inches.
      2) Minimum under-table clearances shall be 27 inches high, 19 inches deep and 30 inches wide.
      3) A minimum clear aisle width of 44 inches shall be provided throughout the accessible portions of the dining area.

5. Offices (Auxiliary).
   a. In facilities that house pre-K through grade 3, the administrative office reception desk shall have a section of the desk located at no more than 30 inches above the finished floor.

6. Classroom and Instructional Areas.
   a. All pre-K through grade 3 classrooms, and all instructional areas equipped with sinks as required by the Educational Specifications, shall have either 1 forward access sink or 1 side access sink. Forward access sinks are preferred by M-DCPS.
b. Sinks in pre-K through grade 3 classrooms that are located on the ground floor shall be installed so that the rim is 26 inches above the finish floor.

c. Sinks in Primary classrooms (grades 2nd and 3rd) that are located on the 2nd floor or above, shall be installed at 30 inches above the finish floor.

d. Sinks in classrooms 4th grade and above, shall be installed at 30 inches above the finish floor.

e. Side access sinks shall have a clear floor space of 48 inches wide by 36 inches deep. Faucets for side access sinks shall be mounted at the side of the sink. Forward access sinks shall have a clear floor space of 36 inches wide by 48 inches deep. Forward access sinks are preferred for accessibility over side access sinks.

f. If base cabinets are provided, the knee space opening shall have a minimum clear width of 36 inches under the sink and the finished floor shall extend under the counter to the wall. The counter and supporting structure shall have a maximum thickness of 2 inches over the required clear space.

g. Counter-mounted drinking fountains and other accessories shall be mounted a maximum of 4 inches from the front edge of counter top mounted sinks.

h. Drinking fountains shall be provided at sinks in pre-K through grade 3 and in all ESE classrooms.

i. In accessible classrooms for pre-K through grade 3, electrical receptacles within reach of students shall have ground fault circuit interrupt protection (GFI).

j. Where children need vestibular boards and swings, accessible classrooms and instructional areas shall have a minimum of 2 permanently attached ceiling mounted devices.

k. Therapy areas shall have a minimum of 3 ceiling mounted fasteners (such as hooks, eyebolts, beams, etc.) capable of supporting a 300-lb. swing load, exclusive of the weight of the apparatus.

1) Each device shall be located at least 4 feet from any wall, window, door or other permanent fixture.

2) Support structures shall be clearly identified from other portions of the ceiling that do not comply with said weight requirements.

3) Hooks or other devices used to attach equipment to these beams or support structures shall be permanently fixed.

l. In accessible classrooms pre-K through grade 3, accessible storage shelves shall be a maximum of 36 inches high for wheelchair access and 46 inches for ambulatory children. The maximum height of clothes rods shall be 40 inches, and hooks shall be 36 inches above the finished floor.

m. In all ESE Self-Contained Classrooms toilets, provide the following:

1) One (1) water closet. In facilities containing students from pre-K through 3rd grade, the accessible water closet shall be 15 inches from floor to top of toilet seat. In facilities that contain only student 4th grade or higher, the accessible toilet shall be 17 inches from floor to top of toilet seat.

2) One (1) lavatory.

3) One (1) accessible shower with a 36-inch long grab bar installed on the back wall, mounted at 28 inches above the floor.

4) One (1) ADA compliant folding changing table mounted 30 inches AFF. Folding changing table shall be a minimum of 72 inches long x 24 inches wide.
7. Sanitary and personal hygiene facilities for children pre-K through grade 3 shall comply with the following:
   a. Toilet rooms, where provided in classrooms serving pre-K through grade 3, shall comply with accessibility requirements, providing a minimum 60 inches of clear space for wheelchair turnaround within the space.
   b. Toilet rooms shall have at least one (1) water closet and one (1) lavatory. Height of toilet seat shall be in accordance with Division 15 of these Design Criteria.

1.6 ENVIRONMENTAL

A. Comply with Florida Statutes Chapter 235.3215, "Toxic Substances in Construction, Repair, or Maintenance of Public School Facilities".

B. Consult M-DCPS Division of Safety and Emergency Management (305.995.4900) for latest environmental guidelines.

C. M-DCPS policy forbids the specification of any item harmful to building occupants and to the environment.

D. General Requirements.
   1. Asbestos.
      a. Materials containing asbestos are prohibited for use in any M-DCPS project.
      b. Coordinate during the design phases with M-DCPS Department of Asbestos Management, to establish and decide the scope, extent of removal, abatement, time frame, and any related activities affecting remodeling or renovation projects.
   2. Fiberglass or any other material used for insulation or sound reduction shall be separated by solid metal from the airstreams of ducts, outlets, air handlers, VAV boxes, sound traps or any other HVAC equipment or components, and other surfaces over which air currents will pass as often occur in plenums.
   3. Radon.
   4. Lead.
      a. Do not use lead-based paint or primers.
      b. Do not use lead-containing materials, such as solder, in potable water systems including piping, fixtures, and fittings. See Division 15.
      c. Do not use lead in roofing components such as vent flashings, roof drain flashings, lead-coated copper fabrications, and terne metal coatings on steel.
      d. Shields containing lead, for use in anchoring bolts in concrete or masonry, are permitted as long as they are not exposed to the touch or to rainwater.
   5. Do not specify materials capable of releasing formaldehyde, mercury, mineral spirits, or any other toxins, irritants, or volatile organic compounds (VOC's). Laminated plastics shall not contain toxic adhesives.
1.7 ENHANCED HURRICANE PROTECTION AREA (EHPA)

A. Enhanced Hurricane Protection Areas (EHPA) shall be designed to comply with the requirements stated under M-DCPS “Design Criteria for Enhanced Hurricane Protection Areas (EHPA)”.

END OF DIVISION