

The Board of Directors has authority to close a school building or facility. In the event the District is considering the closure of a school for instructional purposes, the following steps will be followed.

1. The Superintendent will advise the Board of Directors on the reason(s) that a school closure is being considered along with the nature, timing and extent of the methods that will be used to develop recommendations.
2. The Superintendent will provide an initial recommendation for the Board of Directors. The initial recommendation will be supported by a written summary report.
3. The written report shall be prepared containing an analysis of the effects of the proposed school closure. This report shall be completed at least ninety (90) days prior to any final decision by the Board as to any school closure. During this ninety (90) period, copies of the written report shall be available to members of the public. The written analysis shall consider:
 - A. Impact to other District schools and facilities;
 - B. Impact to District educational program offerings; and
 - C. Financial impacts of the closure.
4. A minimum of two public hearings for each proposed school closure will be held within the 60 days prior to any final decision by the Board. The date, time, place and purpose of these hearings will be provided to the Board at the time of the Superintendent's initial recommendation, and will be subsequently published in the local newspaper for at least two consecutive weeks prior to the first public hearing. When in the opinion of the Board of Directors, circumstances make adherence to the above timeline infeasible, the Board of Directors may so declare and make a school closure decision following a process consistent only with the minimum requirements of RCW 28A.335.020. The Board will consider the feedback received in making its final determination.
5. This policy does not apply to:
 - A. The temporary closure of any school for renovation/remodeling when students are temporarily relocated to another school;
 - B. The closure of any school for emergency reasons as identified in RCW 28A.150.290 (2) (a) and (b); or
 - C. The closure or change in use of any building or other facility owned by the school district which is currently not being used for instructional purposes.

The final determination of whether a school building or facility shall be closed or remain open shall be made by the Board.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.335.020	School Closures-Policy of Citizen Involvement required-Summary of Effects-Hearings-Notice.
	28A335.030	Emergency school closures
	28A.150.290	State superintendent to make rules and regulations-Unforeseen conditions or actions to be recognized-Paperwork limited.
Adopted:	August 28, 2006	North Thurston Public Schools Board of Directors