

SPECIAL
PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY COUNCIL
July 31, 2025 – 1:30 PM
State Capitol Building, Room 322
Santa Fe, NM

PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY COUNCIL (PSCOC)

Special Agenda

July 31, 2025 – 1:30 PM

State Capitol Building Room 322

(*Denotes potential action by the PSCOC)

- I. Call to Order – Joe Guillen, Chair**
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Approval of Agenda*

- II. Public Comment**

- III. Other Business**
 - A. Policy for Gross Square Foot Calculator for Existing Projects in Design*

- IV. Next PSCOC Meeting – August 27, 2025 – (tentatively)**

- V. Adjourn**

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**PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY COUNCIL
SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

PSCOC

Joe Guillen, Chair

Awards Subcommittee

Charles Sallee, LFC - Chair

John Sena, LESC

Mariana Padilla, PED

Martin Romero, CID

Administration, Maintenance & Standards Subcommittee

Ashley Leach, DFA - Chair

Randall Cherry, LCS

Stewart Ingham, PEC

Elizabeth Groginsky, Governor's Office

Joe Guillen will serve on subcommittees in the absence of any member or designee.

I. Policy for Gross Square Foot Calculator for Existing Projects in Design**II. Presenter(s):** Iris K. Romero, Executive Director**III. Potential Motion:**

Council to approve the policy outlining how previously awarded projects should be evaluated and managed under the updated Statewide Adequacy Standards and Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.

Option #1 – Policy #1 to Align Previously Awarded Projects to update GSF Calculator

Option #2 – Policy #2 to Align Previously Awarded Projects to update GSF Calculator

IV. Executive Summary:**Staff Recommendation:**

To approve policy #1 outlining how previously awarded projects should be evaluated and managed under the updated Statewide Adequacy Standards and Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.

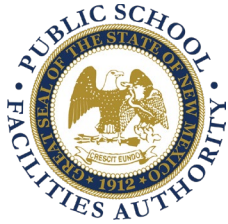
Key Points:

- On January 15, 2025, the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) approved the update to the Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.
- The Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot calculator was developed and added to the Adequacy Planning Guide to:
 - Define an estimated efficient, functional, “right-sized” school size based on the number of students
 - Define the limit of state funding participation on school projects
 - Define an estimated maximum school size in total gross square feet, with the Adequacy Standards describing a minimum school size in total net square feet (NSF), plus a 30% tare
 - Updated Adequacy Standards were adopted by the PSCOC 9-11-2024.
- There are approximately 30 currently awarded projects that are in some stage of the design process.
- Over the past few PSCOC meetings, the Awards Subcommittee has reviewed approximately 8 requests for award language changes to align with the new calculator and has analyzed them on a case by case basis. Some reasons districts are requesting additional square footage include:
 - Increase in career pathways (CTE)
 - Increase in gym and bleacher space

- Expansion of special education services and additional space for support professionals (i.e. physical/occupational therapists who work with students on mobility issues) and student mental health services.
- The Awards Subcommittee had recommended pausing the approval process for these projects until the Council formally adopts a policy outlining how such projects should be evaluated and managed under the updated standards.
- The difference between the 2 policy options is recognized in the “Adjustment Criteria” and refers to projects older than 2023.
 - Policy #1 recommends that even if the gym/community space designed is above the minimum allowable per the Adequacy Standards, it is subject to the state/local split if it fits within the square footage allotted by the Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator. It also stipulates that the district has to certify that their financial position provides for them to pay their local match without the need for a local match reduction (waiver).
 - Policy #2 indicates that all costs associated with any gym and bleacher space designed above the minimum allowable per the Adequacy Standards is the sole responsibility of the district and not subject to the state/local match.

Exhibit(s):

- A- Policy #1 to Align Previously Awarded Projects to update GSF Calculator
- B- Policy #2 to Align Previously Awarded Projects to update GSF Calculator



Policy to review the requests of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator

POLICY STATEMENT: The Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) recognizes the importance of aligning capital outlay projects with the most current standards to ensure equitable and efficient use of public funds. Therefore, the PSCOC authorizes the review and potential adjustment of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator under the conditions below.

Purpose: To ensure consistency, equity, and fiscal responsibility in the application of the revised Statewide Adequacy Standards, including the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator, this policy outlines the conditions under which previously awarded projects may be reviewed and adjusted.

Definitions:

1. **Statewide Adequacy Standards:** tool used to assess every school building against the same set of minimum requirements.
2. **Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator:** tool used to determine the maximum building size (in gross square feet) for a school based on student enrollment and ensures the facilities meet the minimum educational adequacy standards.
3. **Previously awarded projects:** capital outlay projects that have already received funding approval from the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) for a Standards-Based Project that are currently still in the design phase.

Eligibility for Review:

- Projects awarded prior to the adoption of the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator but not yet in construction.
- Previously awarded projects may request an increase in traditional eligible space within the new calculator total.
- Previously awarded projects awarded in 2023-2024 may request to use the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator to adjust academic and gym/community and bleacher space within the total allowable square footage but cannot be increased at the expense of traditional academic space.

Review Process:

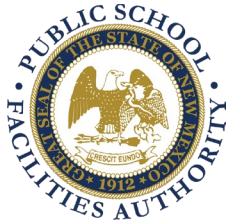
- Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) staff will conduct a comparative analysis of the original award against the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.
- Districts will be required to submit updated project documentation reflecting current needs and design specifications.
- Requested increase in square footage will be evaluated and must adhere to the Adequacy Planning Guide (APG).

Adjustment Criteria:

- Adjustments in square footage will be considered only if they do not compromise educational adequacy or program delivery.
- Space in excess of what the Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator allows would be the responsibility of the school district.
- Projects awarded prior to 2023 that include requests for gymnasium or community space exceeding the minimum requirements outlined in the Statewide Adequacy Standards may seek alignment with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator. To be eligible for this consideration, the district must certify its ability to fully fund its local share of the project costs associated with the expanded scope.
- Requests to receive any additional square footage based on the recent APG update (July 2025) must adhere to this policy.

Timeline:

- The deadline for school districts to submit their requests for revisions to previously awarded square footage is October 1st, 2025.
- The final date for the PSCOC to review and approve these requests will be the November 19th, 2025 PSCOC meeting.



Policy to review the requests of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator

POLICY STATEMENT: The Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) recognizes the importance of aligning capital outlay projects with the most current standards to ensure equitable and efficient use of public funds. Therefore, the PSCOC authorizes the review and potential adjustment of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator under the conditions below.

Purpose: To ensure consistency, equity, and fiscal responsibility in the application of the revised Statewide Adequacy Standards, including the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator, this policy outlines the conditions under which previously awarded projects may be reviewed and adjusted.

Definitions:

1. Statewide Adequacy Standards: tool used to assess every school building against the same set of minimum requirements.
2. Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator: tool used to determine the maximum building size (in gross square feet) eligible for PSCOC funding based on student enrollment and ensures the facilities meet the minimum educational adequacy standards.
3. Previously awarded projects: capital outlay projects that have already received funding approval from the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) for a Standards-Based Project that are currently still in the design phase.

Eligibility for Review:

- Projects awarded prior to the adoption of the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator but not yet in construction.
- Previously awarded projects may request an increase in traditional eligible space within the new calculator total.
- Projects awarded in 2023 and 2024 may request to use the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator to adjust academic and gym/community and bleacher space within the total allowable square footage, but gym space cannot be increased at the expense of traditional academic space.

Review Process:

- Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) staff will conduct a comparative analysis of the original award against the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.
- Districts will be required to submit updated project documentation reflecting current needs and design specifications.
- Requested increase in square footage will be evaluated and must adhere to the Adequacy Planning Guide (APG).

Adjustment Criteria:

- Adjustments in square footage will be considered only if they do not compromise educational adequacy or program delivery.
- Space in excess of what the Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator allows would be the responsibility of the school district.
- For awards made prior to 2023, the state will not pay for gymnasium or bleacher space exceeding the minimum requirements outlined in the Statewide Adequacy Standards. Any gym or bleacher space exceeding the minimum for pre-2023 awards will be the sole responsibility of the district. Districts may request state participation in increases in other eligible spaces within the new calculator values. PSFA will make a recommendation to the council for the maximum allowable square footage for these projects to satisfy educational and programming needs.
- Requests to receive any additional square footage based on the recent APG update (July 2025) must adhere to this policy.

Timeline:

- The deadline for school districts to submit their requests for revisions to previously awarded square footage is October 1st, 2025.
- The final date for the PSCOC to review and approve these requests will be the November 19th, 2025 PSCOC meeting.