

CRITERIA FOR GUIDING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The following are criteria for guiding the development of options and recommendations by the Committee. The Committee sought to identify the qualities and characteristics that any final products (reports, catalog, standards, formulas) should embody.

CRITERIA for the CATALOG

- User-friendly
 - Usable by those with a diversity of skills
 - Clear and understandable
 - Transparent
 - Concise
- Comprehensive of all problems and schools
- Based on site-based data
- Accurate
- Consistent across schools
- Minimizes loopholes
- Flexible and adaptable to NCLB requirement changes
- Efficient and minimizing administrative costs
- Tribal process & policies impacts on implementation

CRITERIA for HEATING, LIGHTING, and COOLING STANDARDS

- Account for cutting edge standards like energy efficiency and LEED

CRITERIA for replacement/new construction *and* renovation/repair PROCESS and FORMULA

- Fair
 - Highest standards in government buildings
 - Unbiased
 - Criteria-based
 - Level playing field of all Bureau-funded schools
 - Everyone shares in some benefit and sometimes, some pain
- Defensible
 - Legally and by policy
 - Research-based
- Consistent with and incorporates space guidelines & educational requirements
- Needs-based
- Consistent with health and safety standards
- Immune from political influence
- Used consistently from ranking to award
- Transparent and clear
- Consistent with Tribal policies & processes
- Streamlined and efficient
- Flexible and adaptable to NCLB requirement changes
- Considers multiple resources/funding streams

- Responsive to academic (i.e. educational program) needs
- Implementable and practicable

CRITERIA for the REPORT

- Compelling and persuasive to Congress and the public
- Visual
- Identifies benefits and return on investment of action
- Implementable and practicable
- Responsive to the urgency of situation

Successful implementation of a quality agreement would help lead to the following:

- Buildings that are:
 - Energy efficient
 - Culturally appropriate
 - Technological savvy
 - Forward thinking
 - Community friendly
 - ADA compliant
 - Sustainable
 - Buildings with longer lifecycles (50 or more years)
 - Sustainable principles
- AYP or equivalent in all schools
- Students surrounded by beauty and culture and as good or better than surrounding communities
- More voice for schools/educators in process
- Safe and secure facilities conducive to learning
- Local input on change orders
- Schools that attract quality personnel
- Schools that increase attendance
- Schools that improve discipline
- Schools that encourage attendance/pride
- Reflect fulfillment of treaty obligations
- Integrate culture into education
- All facilities up to date with funding and technology
- More dollars for schools
- No backlogs
- Safer schools
- Receive buy-in from Indian country

The Committee identified the following reasons why reaching an agreement is important.

- Process of reaching agreement itself builds respect and relationships
- An agreement reached will provide greater certainty for schools in planning for their future
- An agreement reached will help funds reach children in need
- Board agreement will be far more compelling to Congress and the Public
- Ensure the fair distribution of funds to schools in need

- An agreement reached will help funds reach children in need
- Increases trust among tribes and among tribes and the federal government
- Will help tribal schools and their cultural significance to survive and thrive
- Increase the effectiveness and accountability of the trust responsibility to Tribes