



OHIO SCHOOL DESIGN MANUAL

The Design Manual is a comprehensive set of standards used in the design and construction of OSFC-funded buildings.

WHAT IS THE OHIO SCHOOL DESIGN MANUAL (OSDM)?

The OSDM is an extensive document that sets construction standards for all Commission-funded projects. The OSDM was developed in 1997 to provide adaptable guidelines for school facilities design and construction. Its goal is to ensure statewide equity and quality for school facilities as required by Section 3318.091 of the Revised Code. The OSDM update is presented yearly for Commission approval.

DESIGN MANUAL AFFORDS CHOICE FLEXIBILITY

While OSFC provides funding and expertise during the construction phase of a project, the design of each individual building is done by architects selected by the district, reflecting the needs of that particular district.

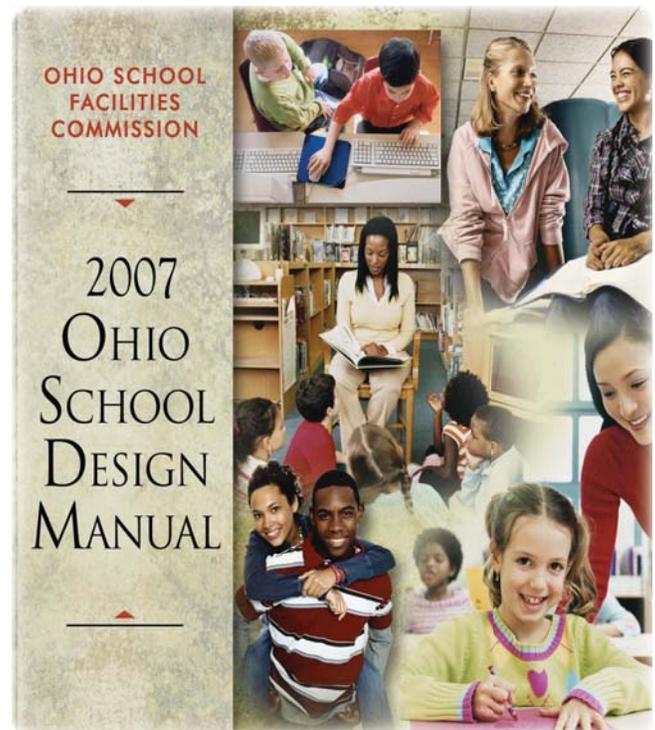
OSFC's Ohio School Design Manual provides schools with standards of design and construction that assure a statewide standard of quality. At the same time, it considers the diversity of each district.

Choice and flexibility are the hallmark of this local design/statewide standard approach.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

The Design Manual places its primary emphasis on classrooms and not on extracurricular programs such as athletics. The Design Manual places a premium on flexible, expandable and adaptable classroom space so changes can be made as the future educational mission and objectives change.

No one can predict the future of education. But we have learned that change is inevitable, so building that factor into the facility will extend the life of the school building and save taxpayers money in the long run.



Today, students learn in large-group environments, small-group settings and through individualized education programs. As students are challenged to maximize technology and the multiple resources available to them, school officials are challenged to create classroom space where they can maximize efficiencies and meet future educational needs and shifting enrollment trends.

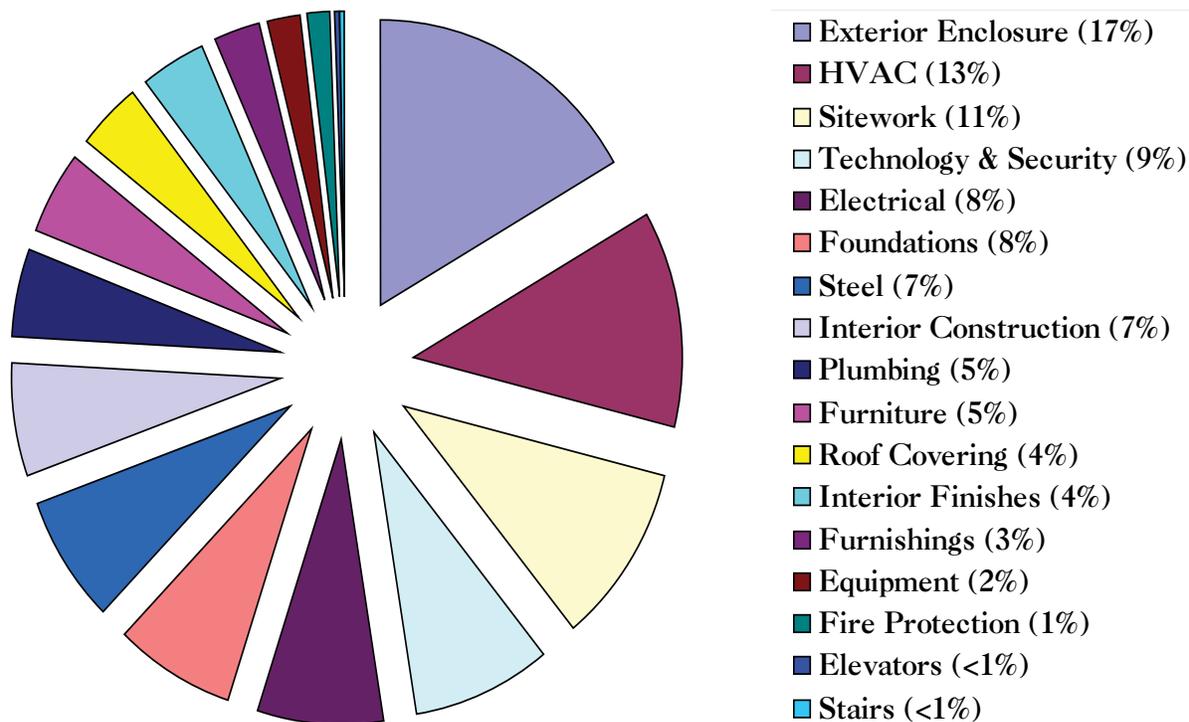
SQUARE-FOOT-PER-CHILD STANDARD

OSFC and its team of architects, planners and educators studied and researched the best educational practices in Ohio and in the nation. That led to establishment of a square-foot-per-child standard.

In its simplest form, the formula works this way: $(\text{square foot per student}) \times (\text{projected building enrollment}) \times (\text{standardized cost per square foot}) = \text{total projected cost}$.

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PROJECT BUDGET BY ELEMENT



The actual square foot allocation depends on a number of factors, including the grade level and the number of students in a building. National surveys show that Ohio has consistently been a leader in the square footage allowed per student and Ohio also tends to invest more dollars in its classroom facilities than the national average.

The Ohio School Design Manual is updated annually by the Commission to reflect changes in costs, the availability of new types of construction materials, and other factors.

OSFC IS LEADING THE WAY...

While building sizes continue to be comparable with counterparts across the country, Ohio is investing significantly more dollars in its classroom facilities:

School	OSFC \$/Sq Ft	National \$/Sq Ft
Elementary	\$191.51	\$148.15
Middle	\$187.19	\$149.79
High	\$194.03	\$151.52

Those statistics were reported in the 2007 Annual School Construction National Report conducted by School Planning/Management Magazine. And the report is good news for Ohio and for our state's school districts.

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

Established in 1997, the Ohio School Facilities Commission administers the state's comprehensive Kindergarten through 12th grade public school construction program. The agency helps school districts fund, plan, design, and build or renovate schools.