

## MEMORANDUM No. 16

TO: Kentucky School Architects  
FROM: Tim Lucas, [tim.lucas@education.ky.gov](mailto:tim.lucas@education.ky.gov), District Facilities Branch  
DATE: February 23, 2011  
RE: School Facilities Inventory and Categorization System (FICS)

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As directed by the General Assembly in SB 132 (2010), the Department of Education solicited Requests for Proposals from firms interested in;

- Developing an evaluation system to review the Commonwealth's school facilities which will be; fair and equitable, consider each building's physical condition and assess the educational suitability of each building
- Provide an evaluation of Category 3 and 4 buildings in the Commonwealth, and those category 5 buildings noted after September 2010.
- Construct a data system that will provide a web based tool to house all of the building information that is robust enough to allow statewide building information to queried and shared and simple enough to allow easy navigation and updating of the information

Over the last few months this effort [School Facilities Inventory and Categorization System (FICS)] has been undertaken by a group with representatives from KDE, Department of Finance, the SFCC and local districts. This effort has resulted in the Parson's Group/MGT having been contracted to undertake this task. Representatives of this group will begin the development of the assessment criteria immediately with the individual building evaluations following in March, 2011. The FICS is scheduled to be in place by the 2012 session of the General Assembly.

A list of the schools in the State to be evaluated was sent to all Superintendents by Commissioner Holliday on February 18, 2011. They were asked to review the list to determine if the buildings in their districts are actually correct and either a 3, 4 or 5. If schools are in better condition than this we will remove them from the list and review them under the second phase of the process. If there are other schools in your district that have not been included as a 3 or 4 and need to be added to the list please let us know. In addition we are reviewing the A/E evaluations and BG-1s that have been sent since the list was compiled to provide an adjustment as well.

With the undertaking of this new effort, as of February 23, 2011, Architects and Engineers are no longer required to evaluate buildings on the current forms in the development of the District Facilities Plans (DFP). Architects will still need to review the buildings to assist the district in the development and pricing for the DFP. This should save the districts money as well as reduce any confusion as the FICS is underway.

We at KDE are excited about the possibilities that have been afforded our districts and the Department by the General Assembly. We look forward to being able to allow our school districts and design professionals to have better access to and use of our information.

Thanks, Tim Lucas

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me at 502-564-4326.