

The journal of the OECD Programme on Educational Building

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What's new: PEB and OECD activities

- [PEB Priorities for 2007-08](#)

OECD member countries have agreed to renew the mandate of the Programme on Educational Building (PEB) for a further two years. The Programme assists participating OECD member countries and PEB associate members to make the most effective use of the resources devoted to educational facilities at all levels and there is a full programme of activities planned for that period. ...

- [Evaluating Quality in Educational Facilities: PEB Working Group](#)

To help countries improve the quality of their school buildings, grounds and equipment, PEB established an *ad hoc* Working Group on Evaluating Quality in Educational Facilities. At its first meeting, held in Paris on 18-19 September 2006, the working group participants discussed PEB's existing framework on quality evaluation and ways of developing quality indicators, common user-centred tools and international quality benchmarks. ...

- [PEB Launches Facility Performance Evaluation Pilot Study](#)

In 2007, PEB will launch a Facility Performance Evaluation Pilot Study, involving five countries. The broad purpose is to provide key stakeholders in educational facilities with tools, information and analyses to evaluate quality in relation to their facilities' capacity to enrich and facilitate the educational process. ...

- [Belgian Conference on Quality Architecture For Educational Facilities](#)

As a first move towards renewing school buildings in Belgium's Flemish Community, Flanders' authorities brought together experts to help provide a conceptual framework for high-quality school architecture. At a conference held in Ghent on 20 November 2006, the international community contributed useful case studies, and presentations from Flanders demonstrated the importance of creating model projects. ...

Other news

- **John Mayfield in Memoriam**

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to John Mayfield who passed away last November in Australia. John was chairman of the PEB Steering Committee from 1985 to 1988, and he remained an active supporter of our work. ...

- **All-day Schooling in Düsseldorf, Germany**

Düsseldorf, the capital of Nordrhein-Westfalen, is one German city applying the concept of all-day schooling. The facilities needed for an all-day school are described below, as well as the conversion of one of Düsseldorf's 72 primary schools for this purpose. ...

- **School Buildings and Student Performance in Developing Countries**

Is school building quality a luxury in places where merely finding learning spaces for children is a challenge in itself? In a context where the usual priority is simply to provide basic schooling, should one be concerned with how buildings look, function and are used by students and teachers? These questions were addressed at the "12th Architecture & Behaviour Colloquium" held in Switzerland which focused on the relevance of buildings to students' learning performance in developing countries. ...

- **Mexico's School Building Facilities Evaluation Tool**

Mexico's Secretary of Public Education (SEP) has developed a tool for evaluating school building facilities. The Diagnostics of School Building Facilities Tool offers a system for providing reliable information about the condition of the country's infrastructure for lower secondary education. ...

- **Disparities in Spending on U.S. Public School Facilities**

A new study, titled "Growth and Disparity: A Decade of U.S. Public School Construction", investigates the scale, scope and distribution of school building investment across the United States. While the report illuminates the unprecedented spending and growth on U.S. public school construction over the last decade, it reveals that a tremendous disparity exists in who has benefited from the billions of public dollars invested. ...

- **Conference in Finland on Tomorrow's Learning Environment**

The Finnish National Board of Education organised an international conference on the learning environment and its relation to pedagogy, student achievement and well-being at school in April 2006, offering visits to local schools. The conference emphasised the importance of physical factors for schoolwork. ...

- **DesignShare Awards 2007**

DesignShare is accepting project submissions for its 2007 awards programme. This United

States web-based organisation promotes innovative examples of school buildings and campuses from around the world. ...

Articles

- **Higher Education Facilities: Issues and Trends**

Issues that will shape the future of higher education institutions and new trends in campus architecture were the themes of a recent international seminar. Francisco Marmolejo presents here an overview of the seminar, explaining changes taking place in the area of higher education facilities and providing participants' views. Presentations from three countries are also described below: Mexico's Monterrey International Knowledge City; the higher education learning environment and the Finnish technology hub of Otaniemi; and, in Spain, the University of Salamanca's R&D&I Building. ...

- **"Intelligent" Primary School Project in Italy**

Construction work is about to begin on a new "intelligent" primary school for 300 students in the Municipality of Solaro in the province of Milan. This is the first primary school building in Italy designed according to the principles of the "intelligent school" as defined by the Centre for Educational Innovation and Experimentation of Milan (CISEM). The building received the 2006 EUROSOLAR Prize. ...

- **School Security and Incident Management in Australia**

School Security Assessment Programme in Australia: Since 1999 the Department of Education and Training in Western Australia has operated a successful security risk management programme. Its strategy is to help school principals both evaluate whether existing controls comply with security procedures and provide adequate, cost-effective levels of security to meet the risks faced by their schools. ...

Serious Incident Management in Australia: As part of its efforts to ensure school safety, the government of New South Wales, Australia, has developed simulation exercises to better prepare principals to manage serious incidents, in collaboration with police. ...

- **Best Practice in Action: Six Essential Elements that Define Educational Facility Design**

Well-crafted educational frameworks require learning environments that support curiosity, as well as literacy and numeracy. Described here are six elements considered essential for creating and maintaining innovative educational facilities. ...

Publications

- [Education Policy Analysis 2005-06, OECD](#)
 - [Starting Strong II, OECD](#)
 - [2006 Education at a Glance, OECD](#)
 - [Academic Libraries: 2004, NCES](#)
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Events

- 30 April-4 May 2007 – [“CEFPI School Building Week”](#), barb@cefpi.org.
- 29-31 August 2007 – National Rural Education Conference entitled “Collaboration for Success”, organised by the Society for the Provision of Education in Rural Australia, the Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council and the Schools of Isolated and Distance Education, in Perth, Australia; louise.rusiecki@des.wa.gov.au; r.lincoln@curtin.edu.au.
- 3-4 September 2007 – [“Supporting Success and Productivity: Practical Tools for Making Your University a Great Place to Work”](#), a “What Works” conference organised by the University of Cambridge, Harvard University, Universitas 21 and IMHE, in Paris, France; valerie.lafon@oecd.org.

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