



## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Use of School Facilities

The board subscribes to the belief that public schools are owned and operated by and for the community. The public is encouraged to use school facilities but will be expected to reimburse the district for such use to insure that funds intended for education are not used for other purposes.

The superintendent is authorized to establish procedures for use of school facilities, including rental rates, supervisory requirements, restrictions, security, etc. Those using school facilities will maintain insurance for accident and liability covering persons using the district's facilities under sponsorship of the organization rate.

The district does not discriminate based on race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability and provides equal access to Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Community athletics programs that use district facilities will not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct or administration of their programs. The district will provide copies of the district's nondiscrimination policy to all third parties using district facilities

For rental rate purposes, organizations seeking the use of school facilities have been divided into three categories:

District School Groups, Local Community Organizations that Benefit Students and Families, or Other Government Agencies includes teachers, departments, administrators, and include those organizations whose main purpose is to promote the welfare of students using facilities after hours for purposes district related business or activities, or to provide members of the community access to government programs or opportunities for civic participation. Examples of district related meetings are: EEA, PSE and coaches organizations conducting business meetings. Examples of child related or community/government groups are: Scouts, Campfire, parent organizations, schools foundation, 4-H, city or county sponsored recreation groups, garden clubs, polling places, presidential political caucuses and governmental groups. The district will provide official recruiting representatives of the state and United States military forces, Job Corps, Peace Corps and AmeriCorps with access to school facilities (including number of days and type of presentation space) equal to and no less than the access provided to other post-secondary occupational or educational representatives.

No fee will be charged provided that additional staff are not employed to supervise or clean the facilities. A rental charge may be established to recover additional utility costs which are incurred or, in the event there are no school staff on duty, to reimburse the district for the costs of providing custodial services. Additionally, youth organizations engaged in sports activities and using school facilities must provide a statement of compliance with the policies for the management of concussion and head injury in youth sports as required by RCW 28A.600.

Nonprofit Groups includes those organizations who might wish to use school facilities for lectures, promotional activities, rallies, entertainment, college courses, or other activities for which public halls or commercial facilities generally are rented or owned. The district may charge a rental rate in excess of costs incurred. Excess charges may be waived when a service club or other nonprofit group is raising funds for charitable purposes. To be granted this exception, the charitable organization must be recognized by the Philanthropic Division of the Better Business Bureau. Professional fund- raisers representing charities must provide evidence that they are registered and bonded by the state of Washington. Such fundraisers must provide evidence that the charity will receive at least seventy (70) percent of the gross revenues received from the public prior to approval to use the facilities. Similar treatment may be granted public universities and colleges when offering college courses within the community or when any university/college is offering a course for staff at the request of the district. Nonprofit groups of the kind that in most communities have their own facilities (churches, lodges, veterans groups, granges, etc.) who wish to use district facilities on a regular, but temporary, basis may do so under this rental rate.

Commercial Enterprises includes profit-making organizations and business-related enterprises. While the district would prefer organizations to use commercial or private facilities, facilities may be rented for nonregular use at the prevailing rate charged by commercial facilities in the area.

District-sponsored activities, including curricular and co-curricular functions, retain first priority in use of facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities will not be considered as endorsement or approval of the activity group or organization.

The use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and narcotics is prohibited in all district facilities and on all district property. This policy is applicable to all district employees, students, volunteers, outside contractors, visitors and the general public.

Cross Reference:	Board Policy 4215	Use of Tobacco on School Property
Legal References:	AGO 1973 No. 26	Initiative No. 276--School districts-- Use of school facilities for presentation of programs-- Legislature--Elections
	RCW 4.24.660	Liability of school districts under contracts with youth programs

RCW 28A.230.180	Access to campus and student information directories by official recruiting representatives – Informing students of educational and career opportunities
RCW 28A.320.510	Night schools, summer schools, meetings, use of facilities for
RCW 28A.335.150	Permitting use and rental of play-grounds, athletic fields, or athletic facilities
RCW 28A.335.155	Use of buildings for youth programs – Limited immunity
20 USC Sec. 7905	Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act
34 CFR Sec. 108.6	Equal Access to Public School Facilities for the Boy Scouts of America and Other Designated Youth Groups

Management Resources:

*Policy and legal News, February 2014*  
*Policy News, August 2009*

Other updates/corrections  
Concussion and Head Injuries  
Legislation

Adoption Date: December 19, 1989  
Updated: September 18, 1995  
Updated: November 18, 2002  
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