

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i> USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES	<i>Code</i> KF
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HOLLISTON

It is the School Committee's desire that Holliston residents enjoy maximum use of school property. It is the Committee's intent that such use will maintain safe conditions and preserve the property for school program use.

Use of school premises by organizations not specifically under the aegis of the Superintendent or designee will be permitted only for educational, civic, recreational, social, cultural, charitable or other like purposes deemed in the interests of the community.

School facilities will be used according to the regulations and rental fee schedules recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the School Committee. The use of the facility is limited to that which the building administrator approves. The use of offices, locker rooms, and elementary classrooms, except the Miller Multi-purpose Room, is prohibited. The Superintendent or building administrator may suspend or cancel any current or future permit for facility use when the rules governing facility usage have not been followed.

As a service to the community, the School Committee shall grant the use of school facilities as provided in the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 71.

1. The following priorities shall be observed in granting the use of school facilities:

a.) **Schools**

Use of school facilities by the schools and by school-related and/or school-sponsored organizations (such as Holliston Athletic Booster Association, Holliston Education Foundation, Holliston Music And Performing Arts Association, PTO, Special Education Parent Advisory Committee) shall take precedence over all other users with the exception of Town Meeting and Town Elections.

b.) **Town**

Requests by official town boards, commissioners and departments, and the activities which are part of their function, shall have precedence over all other users except schools.

c.) **Holliston Youth Groups and Holliston Youth Sports**

Requests by Holliston youth groups and Holliston youth sports groups shall have precedence over all other users except school and town.

d.) **Others**

Requests by any other groups not included in (a), (b), or (c) above shall then be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. The School Department reserves the right to cancel, postpone or move to another location a scheduled activity that conflicts with items a, b, or c above.

2. The use of school facilities for other than regular school purposes shall be allowed only at times when such use will not interfere with regular school work or business, and shall not limit the cleaning of the building.

Permission to use school facilities does not constitute an endorsement by the school district of any group or organization or any of the positions they represent.

School facilities are not intended to be used for:

- a. political fundraisers or politically motivated groups
- b. business purposes or personal profit, except in cases where there is a direct educational benefit to Holliston students or the Holliston community (e.g. test preparation courses, tutoring)

3. A fee schedule shall be established from time-to-time which will include operational expenses and overhead.
4. Tutoring: The School Committee authorizes the principal to allow the use of school facilities for one-to-one or small group tutoring that provides a direct educational benefit when it is performed by Holliston school staff members who tutor Holliston Public School students. Building usage fees may be waived at the discretion of the business manager.

Tutoring offered by an individual who is not a Holliston staff member, but who offers skills not readily available from Holliston staff members, may be offered use of a school facility upon recommendation by the principal. Building fees may be waived by the business manager.
5. All individuals who use school facilities will comply with the procedures outlined in Procedure KF-P - Use of School Facilities Guidelines.
6. Extra staff and/or services may be required depending on the nature of the event and the number of attendees. The building administrator or designee will make the decision on what staff/services must be present. However, expenses for all extra staff/services must be paid by the organization requesting use of the premises. These may include:
 - a) Police or fire coverage. The Chief of Police and/or the Fire Chief will determine the number of police/fire officers required. The applicant must engage them, if required, and pay fees separately to the Police/Fire Department.
 - b) Additional custodial services
 - c) Kitchen/cafeteria services
 - d) Technology for audio/visual or technology usage
7. The use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or any illegal substances is prohibited on school property. (See Policy JIC - Expected Conduct).
8. Organizations or individuals using school facilities shall be responsible for:
 - a.) limiting usage to the assigned areas
 - b.) cleaning all areas after use including trash removal. Inadequate cleaning and/or trash removal will result in a loss of building use privileges.
 - c.) ensure proper conduct of all attendees, including children
 - d.) cover the costs of any extra services as described in paragraph 6
 - e.) restore immediately and/or pay (including labor) costs arising out of use of the facility for any and all claims or damage. The School Department reserves the right to require security deposits that would be forfeited for misuse of the building and/or violations of the building usage policy.
 - f.) adhere to the prescribed times for the start and the end of the activity
 - g.) assure that no food or beverages are permitted outside the cafeteria without specific permission of the building administrator
9. All renters must agree to hold harmless and indemnify the School Committee and the Town of Holliston with respect to any claim of loss, injury or damage arising out of use of school facilities.
10. A facilities supervisor must be present to open and/or secure the building, supervise the activity, and to ensure the building is ready for instructional use after the event. School cafeteria staff may be required to be hired when the kitchen or kitchen equipment is used.
11. The business manager or designee will make the final decision on what staff must be present.
12. In the event that school is canceled on the day of its contemplated use, the business manager or designee will determine whether the renter can use the facility.

13. The School Committee reserves the right to amend or waive this policy in whole or in part in specific cases. Failure to comply with this policy may result in restriction of future use of school facilities.

First Reading:	August 19, 1999
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Legal References:	M.G.L. c. 71, s. 71
Policy Cross Reference:	JIC (Expected Conduct); JLTA (Life Threatening Allergies); ADC (Tobacco on School Premises)
Procedure Reference:	KF-P (Use of School Facilities Guidelines)

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