

Series 1000 – Community Relations

3. Public Activities Involving Staff, Students or Use of School Facilities

C. Use of School Facilities and Grounds

A. Authority

1. All Suffield Public School buildings and grounds are the direct responsibility of the Suffield Board of Education.
2. The Director of Athletics and Director of Facilities will have the responsibility for implementing and coordinating this regulation.

B. Conditions

1. This regulation applies to all applications, internal and external, requesting use of school facilities after school hours, in the evenings and on weekends throughout the year. All applications must be submitted online using a Building Use Form.
 - a. Organizations booking school facilities and grounds for extended periods of time, i.e. multiple days a week, over multiple weeks or months, will need to meet with a district representative to discuss potential changes due to overuse, required maintenance, weather or other unforeseen circumstances that may require a facility or field to be closed. The Director of Athletics and the Director of Facilities will make the final decision and will work with the group to resolve any concerns with minimal impact.
 - b. Approval of the use of school facilities may be revoked at any time by the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Board does not support revoking approval but does recognize situations such as snow days, facility renovation/improvement need, exceptional educational opportunity and safety issues that may result in the need to revoke or reschedule a previous approval. Examples include but are not limited to rescheduling of school sports events, unforeseen facility issues, or unexpected school needs. Efforts to resolve any conflicts when revoking or rescheduling is necessary will be initiated by the Director of Facilities. If a conflict cannot be resolved the Superintendent or his/her designee shall be the final arbiter.
2. A valid Certificate of Insurance, if required, must be received by the Business office or a minimum of \$1,000,000 limit on liability insurance.
3. Groups using the Suffield High/Middle School auditoriums will be required to attend a meeting with a school designated person prior to final approval for the event.
4. Any groups applying may be required to provide proof of nonprofit status and that they are authorized to sign for, and legally enter into, a contract on behalf of the renting organization or agency.
5. Custodial presence shall be required whenever facilities, and possibly grounds, are used outside the regular work schedule for custodians (see Section D.2. for fees).

6. Technician presence shall be required whenever an auditorium space is used. Technicians may be required for other uses and will be determined based on facts and circumstances (see Section D.4. for Fees).
7. Storage - Storage of items needed specifically for approved events and programs shall be granted based on amount of storage needed and availability of storage space at the time of the event. The Director of Facilities will approve any requests for storage on school property for these events. There will be no additional fees charged for temporary storage. This storage shall not exceed an agreed upon duration or it will be considered Long Term storage and will be subject to storage fees or removal costs.
8. All rental fees and custodial charges will be paid to the Suffield Public School Business Office. Hiring and payment arrangements will be made by the Director of Facilities directly with the Suffield Police Department and/or other town departments if determined to be required.
9. When school hours are impacted by inclement weather or other emergencies, use of such school facilities and grounds may also be canceled for that day.
10. When the kitchen facility is being rented, a cafeteria representative will be required to be present. The organization must meet with the Food Services Department prior to any event.
11. If extra custodial support is needed due to the requested reservation, the custodial fee will be charged to the applicant.
12. If the applicant does not give a 48 hour notice of cancellation, a minimum two hour charge for custodial or other services will be billed to the applicant.
13. The Superintendent of schools shall have the authority to waive any charges in part or in-total.

C. Priority Use

1. The Suffield Board of Education will recognize and schedule without conflict wherever possible the use of school buildings and grounds in the following priority order:
 - a. School Use
 - b. Suffield Parks and Recreation Youth Activities
 - c. Other Suffield Municipal Department or Agency
 - d. School, Child, or Education-related Suffield Non-Profit Organization or Agency (ie. Town Travel Programs)
 - e. Suffield Parks and Recreation Adult Activities
 - f. Suffield Non-Profit Organization or Agency
 - g. Non-Suffield Non-Profit Organization or Agency
 - h. For-profit Organization or Agency with Suffield Public Schools Student/Staff Participation
 - i. Other as approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee

2. Online applications should be submitted four months prior to the event. Any applications received greater than four months out may get cancelled by priority. Any group requesting an event date after the four month window will not be able to bump any other group already booked. Any application received within 2 weeks of an event may be rejected based on the discretion of the Director of Facilities.

D. Charges for Non-School Use

1. Rental Fee

- a. There will be no rental charge for any non-school use scheduled by applicants described in Sections C.1.a - C.1.g. above.
- b. There will be a rental charge for any non-school use scheduled by applicants described in Section C.1.g and C.1.i. above, as follows:

| | <u>AWS/MIS</u> | <u>SMS/SHS</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Classroom (each) | \$250 | \$250 |
| Cafeteria | \$500 | \$500 |
| Kitchen | \$1000 | \$1000 |
| Auditorium | N/A | \$1500 per day |
| Gymnasium | \$1000 | \$1500 per day |
| Baseball/Softball Fields | | \$20 per/hour |
| Ted Beneski Field | | see attached schedule |

Or at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee.

2. Custodial Charge

- a. All Schools
Custodial presence shall be required and a custodial fee charged to all applicants and users when a custodian is not already scheduled. The Director of Facilities will determine the number of hours required per event and the custodial rate will be applied accordingly.
- b. Custodial Rate
The Business Office will establish the custodial hourly rate on an annual basis. There will be a minimum custodial charge of two hours when applicable.

3. Technician Charge

- a. Technician presence shall be required and a fee charged to all applicants using the Suffield High School/Middle School auditorium.
- b. The business office will have a minimum Technician charge of two hours when applicable.

4. Police Charge

- a. When police presence is required by local, state, or other regulation/code, the charge will be paid by the user.
- b. The Superintendent of Schools will have the right to require a police presence even if not required by Section D.3.a. above and the charge will be paid by the user.
- c. The hourly police charge will be established by the Suffield Police Department.

E. Restrictions

- 1. The facility is to be used only on the date and time specified for the purpose(s) listed on approved application.

2. Use or possession of tobacco, vapor products, alcoholic beverages or unauthorized controlled substances shall not be permitted on school property.
3. Groups or organizations owing money to the Board for previous school facilities use will not be eligible for future school facility use until the indebtedness is satisfied.
4. Supplies or equipment belonging to the renting organization may not be stored on school property without advanced written permission.
5. Use of school owned property or equipment (e.g., audiovisual, musical, stage props, etc.) is not permitted without advanced written permission. A damage deposit may be required.
6. No food or refreshments are to be served or consumed unless specifically detailed on the application prior to approval.
7. Parking shall be limited to permitted areas only, violations will be enforced with applicable penalties and towing if deemed to be in the best interest of safety.
8. Organizations having caused damage during a previous school facility use may not be eligible for future school facility rental.
9. No food or drink will be allowed in the auditorium (performing arts center) or gymnasium.
10. Renters are responsible for costs associated with damages, including attorney fees.

Regulation approved:

October 6, 1998

SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regulation revised:

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Suffield, Connecticut

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