

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Use of School Facilities

Application for Use of Facilities

Any person applying for the use of any District facilities or grounds on behalf of any society, group or organization shall present written authorization from the group or organization to make the application; unless the applicant is an officer of the group.

Applications for use of District facilities shall be given preference in the following order:

1. In-school uses (*clubs, class events, etc.*)
2. Contracted uses.
3. School support groups, youth and senior citizens groups.
4. Public agencies and public affairs groups.
5. Community recreational and cultural groups (*nonprofit*)
6. Nonprofit special interest groups
7. Others as approved by the Superintendent, or designee

Persons or organizations applying for the use of District facilities or grounds shall submit a facilities use statement indicating that they uphold the state and federal constitutions and do not intend to use school premises or facilities to commit unlawful acts.

Persons or organizations granted use of District facilities will be responsible for all costs for cleaning and maintenance personnel, food services, and persons responsible to provide access and secure the facility following the use, attributable to the use in accordance with the Facility Use Fee schedule. Fees are due in advance of usage.

Keys shall not be issued to any persons or organization. Access will be provided by district staff and compensated at cost to applicant.

Civic Center Use

All school-related activities (clubs, class events, etc.) shall be given priority in the use of facilities under the Civic Center Act. Thereafter, District facilities and grounds shall be available to citizens and community groups as a civic center for the following purposes, subject to district policies and regulations: (Education Code 38131, 38132)

1. Public, literary, scientific, recreational, educational or public agency meetings
2. The discussion of matters of general or public interest
3. The conduct of religious services for temporary periods, on a one-time or renewable basis, by any church or religious organization

4. Child care programs to provide supervision and activities for children of preschool and elementary school age

(cf. 5148 – Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.2 – Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 5148.3 – Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

5. The administration of examinations for the selection of personnel or the instruction of precinct board members by public agencies
6. Supervised recreational activities including, but not limited to, sports league activities that are arranged for and supervised by entities, including religious organizations or churches, and in which youths may participate regardless of religious belief or denomination
7. A community youth center
8. Mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare

(cf. 0450 – Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

9. A ceremony, patriotic celebration, or related educational assembly conducted by a Veteran’s organization.

A Veterans’ organization means the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, United Spanish War Veterans, Grand Army of the Republic, or other duly recognized organization of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, or marines of the United States, or any of their territories. (Military and Veterans Code 1800)

10. Other purposes deemed appropriate by the Governing Board

Restrictions

District facilities or grounds shall not be used for any of the following activities:

1. Any use by an individual or group for the commission of any crime or any act prohibited by law.
2. Any use of District facilities and grounds which is inconsistent with the use of the school facilities for school purposes or which interferes with the regular conduct of school or school work.
3. Any use which involves the possession, consumption or sale of drugs, alcoholic beverages or any restricted substances, including tobacco.

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to approve and arrange for scheduling the use of school facilities in accordance with the Education Code, Board Policy and administration regulations. In addition, the Superintendent or designee, may exclude certain school facilities from nonschool use for safety or security reasons.

Damage and Liability

Groups, organizations, or persons using school facilities or grounds shall be liable for any property damages caused by the activity. The District may charge the amount necessary to repair the damages and may deny the group further use of school facilities or grounds. (Education Code 38134)

Any group or organization using school facilities or grounds shall be liable for any injuries resulting from its negligence during the use of district facilities or grounds. The group shall bear the cost of insuring against this risk and defending itself against claims arising from this risk. (Education Code 38134)

Subject to District policies and regulations, groups or organizations shall provide the district with evidence of insurance against claims arising out of the group's own negligence when using school facilities. (Education Code 38134)

As permitted, the Superintendent or designee may require a hold harmless agreement and indemnification when warranted by the type of activity or the specific facility(ies) being used.

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