Community Use of School and District Facilities

The Thompson School District is an integral part of the communities it serves and wishes to encourage the use of the schools as community centers.

The district encourages community use of school facilities, to reflect the district's priority for quality education, and to recognize the community as a partner. The fee structure ensures that the district will spend its money directly on the education of youth while at the same time promoting community use of the buildings.

Members of the community may use district facilities after receiving permission and arranging for payment to the district. The Board of Education reserves the right to refuse approval or to cancel any and all permits issued for the use of a school building when it deems that such action is necessary for the best interests of the district. The Board of Education delegates to the superintendent (or designee) the authority to set and review annual rental fees for use of school facilities and other related costs. Such fees and charges shall be designed to recover district costs incurred through public use. The Board or superintendent may waive such fees through specific action.

The assistant superintendent of human resources and school support will review the regulations and fees associated with district facility use as part of a comprehensive, annual report of district facilities management. This report, provided by the facilities services department, will detail the number of permits issued, the amount of money collected and the distribution of that money by

school. This report will also summarize funds received from the lease agreements that the district has with other organizations and will contain any recommendations for changes to the system. Any changes will be cooperatively determined and implemented as part of a comprehensive and annual updating of district facilities management, subject to Board approval. They will become effective the first day of the following month after approval is received.

Permission to use district facilities does not constitute a district endorsement of any organization, the beliefs of an organization or group, nor the expression of any opinion regarding the nomination, retention, election or defeat of any candidate, or the expression of any opinion as to the passage of any issue.

No school or facility shall be used by any group which advocates social or political change by use of violence, by any group that discriminates based upon the race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, or disability of any citizen of the United States, or by any group whose purpose is either to subvert or overthrow by violent or unlawful means the government of the United States or the State of Colorado. No school building or facility shall be used for any purpose prohibited by law.

Alcoholic and malt beverages, controlled substances, or weapons of any kind shall not be allowed on district premises. There shall be no tobacco use in or on school property. Any activity within the scope of laws defining and regulating gambling may not be conducted in or on district facilities.

Any individual, group or organization using school property as provided under this policy shall hold the Board of Education, individual Board members and all district officers, agents and employees free and harmless from any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense that may arise from such use or occupancy.

Any individual, group or organization using school property as provided under this policy shall also indemnify the district for loss or damage to any district property or any injury to persons arising from such use of occupancy. When using school facilities, organizations will be required to furnish satisfactory liability protection. The district further reserves the right to require a performance bond or a deposit for protection of the building facility and equipment, and to guarantee the rental or expenses.

The Thompson School District is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, marital status, gender, age or disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices.

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Revised August 3, 1994
Revised May 3, 2000
Revised October 20, 2010

Legal References

- C.R.S. 22-32-110(1)(f) board of education specific powers
- 20 U.S.C. 7905

Cross References

- ADC and GBED, Tobacco Free Schools / Workplace
- IHCFA, School-Based Child Care Programs

Contract Reference

- TEA Agreement, Article 5, Association Rights, Section 5-3, Use of School Facilities