

## **Community Use of School Facilities**

The Board of Education believes that the primary use of school buildings, facilities and equipment is for the educational program. However, it is cognizant of the large community investment in school buildings, grounds and equipment. Therefore, the community shall be encouraged to make use of district facilities when such use will not interfere with the school program.

The Board further believes that tax-supported school facilities should not be used as free or low-cost facilities for non-school groups to conduct their ongoing business or activities. Such regular use may unnecessarily burden school facilities.

While it is the Board's responsibility to determine policy regarding the use of school facilities by non-school organizations or individuals, the Board delegates to the superintendent or designee the authority to administrate the non-school use of school facilities.

### **Eligible organizations**

Organizations connected with and promoting recognized school functions may use the buildings without charge.

Other organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, Big Sisters of America, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Future Farmers of America, Girl Scouts of America, Little League Baseball Inc. and any other group intended to serve youth under the age of 21 listed in Title 36 of U.S. Code may use school property upon payment of suitable fees and costs, according to the fee schedule recommended by the superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. Rental or fees may be waived by the Board for charitable or other nonprofit organizations or groups.

Any organization or individual using a school or other facility shall comply with policies and regulations approved by the Board of Education, guarantee the proper care of the facilities and equipment used, and be responsible for the replacement or repair of such facilities and/or equipment. At least one district employee must be on hand, paid for by the organization, when in the opinion of the superintendent it is necessary to supervise the individuals and protect school property. The number of paid employees shall depend on the type of service, number to be served and number of volunteer helpers.

### **Rental charges and approval of use**

Community groups that use school facilities must sign a rental agreement. By signing such rental agreement, the applicant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the district, Board of Education, individual board members, officers, directors, agents and employees, and any person whose property may be within the building, from any and all claims, liabilities, costs, causes of actions, judgments, damages, losses and expenses brought or actions filed against the district, Board of Education, individual board members, officers, director, agent and employee, in the defense of any actions or claims arising out of or related to applicant's use of the premises and facilities.

The district reserves the right to require a deposit for protection of the building, facility and equipment, and to guarantee the rental or related expenses. In addition, the facility user shall provide evidence of insurance in the form of a certificate of insurance. The district shall specify the minimum insurance coverage to be obtained and maintained by the applicant during the use of the building or facility.

All rentals of school facilities shall be approved by the superintendent or designee on the basis of this policy and its accompanying regulations. Any special requests or exception to policy and/or regulations must be approved by the Board.

**Denial of use**

The district reserves the right to deny building use for any reason.

Adopted: January 1975  
Revised: September 20, 1994  
Revised: February 2, 1999  
Revised: August 17, 2004  
Revised: September 20, 2005  
Revised: May 22, 2012

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. 7905 (*Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act contained in No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*)  
C.R.S. 22-32-110(f)

CROSS REFS.: EDC, Authorized Use of School-Owned Materials and Equipment  
JJA-2, Student Organizations – Open Forum (Secondary Schools)