

Use of School Facilities

The board believes that public schools are owned and operated by and for its patrons. The public is encouraged to use school facilities but shall be expected to reimburse the district for such use to ensure that funds intended for education are not used for other purposes. On recommendation of the superintendent, the board shall set the rental rates for facility use.

The superintendent is authorized to establish procedures for use of school facilities, including rental rates, supervisory requirements, restrictions, and security. Those using school facilities shall maintain insurance as outlined in those procedures for accident and liability covering persons using the district's facilities.

Youth organizations engaged in sports activities and using school facilities must provide a statement of compliance with the policies for the management of concussions and sudden cardiac arrest in youth sports as required by RCW 4.24.660, RCW 28A.600.190 and RCW 28A.600.195. Additionally, community athletic programs that use district facilities will not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, creed, religion, age, veteran or military status, or disability in the operation, conduct or administration of their programs.

The district will provide copies of the district's nondiscrimination policy to all third parties using district facilities.

For rental rate purposes, organizations seeking the use of school facilities have been divided into four categories:

1. **Category A: District Sponsored Student and School Related Functions:**
This category includes school district sponsored activities, district sponsored athletic events, school educational activities, Associated Student Body activities, PTA meetings, booster club activities, district parent groups meeting for the purpose of supporting school related activities, district staff training, bargaining group meetings, and scheduled staff activities when approved by the building administrator.
2. **Category B: Community Youth Organizations:**
This category includes nonprofit organizations whose main purpose is to promote the welfare of youth, and improve the quality of life for youth in the community. Examples include community youth sport/recreation groups, youth performance groups, service clubs who sponsor youth activities, and religious youth groups.
3. **Category C: Community Groups and Government Agencies:**
This category includes those organizations which wish to use school facilities for lectures, promotional activities, political rallies, religious activities, entertainment, college courses, senior citizen groups, or other activities for which public halls or commercial facilities are generally rented. Examples include community adult recreation groups, community philanthropic groups, and non-profit community groups.
4. **Category D: Profit Generating/Commercial Enterprises and Non-community Groups:**
This category includes profit-making organizations or private individuals and businesses or business related enterprises. School staff that use district facilities for private instruction, and charge for their services, are included in this category.

When facilities are used outside of regular school hours, or when the district incurs extra utility, cleaning or supervision costs, a fee shall be charged to recoup the costs.

District-sponsored activities, including curricular and extra-curricular functions, retain first priority in the use of facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as an endorsement of or approval of the activity group or organization nor for the purposes it represents.

Legal References: RCW 28A.320.510 Night schools, summer schools, meetings, use of facilities for
RCW 28A.335.150 Permitting use and rental of playgrounds, athletic fields, or athletic facilities
RCW 28A.335.155 Use of buildings for youth programs — Limited immunity
AGO 1973 No. 26, Initiative No. 276 - School districts — Use of school facilities for presentation of programs — Legislature — Elections

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