

PUBLIC USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Board of Education recognizes that the primary purpose for the use of school facilities is to implement the regular instructional program. The Board of Education also recognizes that school facilities belong to the school community. Accordingly, the Board feels that school facilities can and should be made available to school community groups when not used by the school to promote cultural, social, and recreational activities or for such other purposes as may be approved by the Board.

The Board further recognizes that there are costs involved in non-school use of facilities. If the district is functioning under a contingent budget, charges necessary to cover the expense of maintenance and operations will be made to the community group requesting the use of school facilities.

Permitted Uses

District facilities may be used for the purposes listed below, subject to the conditions and restrictions set forth in this policy.

- A. Instruction in any branch of education, learning or the arts.
- B. Public library purposes, subject to provisions of the Education Law, or as stations of public libraries.
- C. Social, civic and recreational meetings and entertainments, or other uses pertaining to the welfare of the community so long as such uses are non-exclusive and open to the general public.
- D. Meetings, entertainment and occasions where admission fees are charged, when the proceeds are to be spent for an educational or charitable purpose.
- E. Polling places for holding primaries and elections, for the registration of voters and for holding political meetings.
- F. Civic forums and community centers.
- G. Recreation, physical training and athletics, including competitive athletic contests of children attending a private, nonprofit school.
- H. Child-care programs when school is not in session, or when school is in session for the children of students attending schools of the district and, if there is additional space available, for children of employees of the district.
- I. Graduation exercises held by not-for-profit elementary and secondary schools, provided that no religious service is performed.

Prohibited Uses

Any use not permitted by this policy is prohibited. In addition, the following uses are specifically prohibited.

- A. Meetings sponsored by political organizations.
- B. Meetings, entertainments and occasions that are under the exclusive control of and the proceeds are to be applied for the benefit of a society, association or organization or a religious sect or denomination or of a fraternal, secret or exclusive society or organization, other than veterans' organizations or volunteer fire fighters or volunteer ambulance workers.

C. Any unorganized group unable to assume financial responsibility.

Ref: Education Law §414

Adoption date: 2/07/08