

7510 - USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES

The Board of Education believes that the grounds and facilities of this District should be made available for community purposes, provided that such use does not infringe on the original and necessary purpose of the property or interfere with the educational program of the schools and is harmonious with the purposes of this District.

The Board will permit the use of District grounds and facilities when such permission has been requested in writing by a responsible organization or a group of at least seven (7) citizens and has been approved under the operating procedures and administrative guidelines defined by the Superintendent.

District grounds and facilities shall be available for the below-listed uses. Meetings held for educational, religious, civic, social or recreational meetings, entertainment and for such other purposes as to promote the welfare of the community shall be non-exclusive and open to the general public. Such uses shall not seriously infringe upon activities sponsored by the School District and Board, school purposes, or other approved activities and uses. No rental fees will be charged for groups A-G below. However, other fees may apply (e.g.; set-up, security deposit, personnel, etc.). When there are competing interests, approval will be given according to the following priorities:

- A. uses directly related to the schools and the operations of the schools
- B. uses and groups indirectly related to the schools
- C. meetings of employee associations
- D. uses for voter registration and elections
- E. departments or agencies of the municipal government
- F. other governmental agencies
- G. community organizations or groups formed for charitable, civic, social, religious, recreational, educational purposes.
- H. other organizations/groups

The use of District grounds and facilities shall not be granted for any purpose which is prohibited by law.

Should all or any part of the District's community be struck by a disaster, the Board shall make District grounds and/or facilities available, at no charge, for the housing, feeding, and care of victims or potential victims when requested by local, State, or Federal authorities. The Superintendent should meet with the Greene County Disaster officials to establish a disaster preparedness plan in order to ensure that proper procedures are established to minimize confusion, inefficiency, and disruption of the educational program. (R.C. 5915.02-08)

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the granting of permission to use District facilities including a schedule of fees which, together with the costs used to determine such fees, must be approved by the Board. Such guidelines are to include the following:

- A. Requests for the use of school buildings and school grounds must be made in writing and submitted to the Superintendent at least fourteen (14) school days prior to the date of the proposed use. The Superintendent shall determine whether to approve a request for the use of school buildings and school grounds within seven (7) school days after receipt of such written request. The Board reserves the right to overrule the Superintendent's decision within two (2) school days after such written decision.

- B. Each user may be required to present evidence of the purchase of organizational liability insurance to the limit prescribed by District administrative guidelines.
- C. Use of District equipment in conjunction with the use of District facilities must be requested specifically in writing and may be granted by the procedure by which permission to use facilities is granted. The users of District equipment must accept liability for any damage or loss to such equipment that occurs while it is in their use. Where rules so specify, no item of equipment may be used except by a qualified operator.
- D. Users shall be liable financially for damage to the facilities and for proper chaperonage.
- E. Each user shall be responsible for providing any and all supervision relating to the use of school buildings and school grounds.
- F. Each user must agree to hold harmless the Board, the School District, officials, representatives, agents, and employees thereof.

"School Grounds" include all school-owned roads, driveways, and walkways.

Use of school buildings and school grounds under this policy shall not be construed or deemed to create a public forum.

Any unauthorized entrance into a school building or upon school grounds shall constitute criminal trespass.

No liability shall attach to this District, or any of its employees and officers, specifically as a consequence of permitting access to these facilities.

R.C. 2911.21, 3313.20, 3313.75 - .79, 3501.29
P.L. 98-377

Board Approved: 10-15-08