



SD 42 POLICY: 10400

COMMUNITY AND COMMERCIAL USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND GROUNDS

POLICY STATEMENT

Under the [School Act](#), the Board of Education (“Board”) is obligated to provide facilities and grounds sufficient to conduct school age education programs. The efficient operation of such programs is recognized as the primary purpose of all district facilities and grounds.

The Board recognizes, however, that all taxpayers contribute to the cost of constructing and maintaining local facilities and grounds through provincial taxation. The Board agrees, therefore, to extend to the public the privilege of having access to Board facilities and grounds provided it does not interfere with school programs or other Board initiatives and can only be allowed at no cost to the Board. In the event of a violation of this privilege, the Board reserves the right to cancel the use of any school facility or grounds.

The Board reserves the right to enter into reciprocal agreements with the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows with respect to site acquisition, development, operations, use and maintenance. In addition, the Board reserves the right to enter into agreements with those agencies respecting the cooperative use of facilities and grounds for providing community programs and services. Financial arrangements for such agreements will be negotiated separately between the Board and the participating agencies.

AUTHORITY

The Board assigns the responsibility for the implementation of this policy to the Secretary Treasurer and authorizes the Secretary Treasurer to establish procedures that will guide the implementation of this policy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Board property will be made available to licensed child care providers, as defined in the School Act, on business days between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. provided that:

- a. any use of Board facilities and grounds by a licensed child care provider does not disrupt or otherwise interfere with the provision of educational activities, and
- b. the revenue obtained by the Board from licensed child care providers using Board facilities and grounds equals the direct and indirect costs incurred and to be incurred by the board as a result of making that use available.

Board facilities will be made available to outside users for a fee that at a minimum ensures full cost recovery of direct and indirect costs incurred and to be incurred by the Board as a result of making that use available. On an annual basis, the fee structure will be reviewed and presented to the Board for approval.

School grounds are closed from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

The rental of all school facilities and grounds is the responsibility of the Secretary Treasurer. Revenues derived from the rentals of all school facilities and grounds are the property of the district

and will be shared with schools for the support of school programs.

The Board reserves the right to refuse the use of school facilities by any community, commercial or political organization whose activities and messaging does not reflect the vision, mission, values and policies of the District including Policy 9410: Safe Caring and Healthy Schools and Policy 9415: Inclusive Schools.

The Board reserves the right to refuse entering into rental agreements and the right to terminate existing rental agreements with parties that fail to provide and maintain general liability insurance with insurers licensed in British Columbia and in forms and amounts acceptable to the Board.

The use of school district facilities and grounds shall be prioritized as follows:

- **First Priority:** School Use - Regular school curricular activities and extra-curricular activities that are authorized, organized, and supervised by school staff.
- **Second Priority:** District Programs – All other District programs, services and initiatives.
- **Third Priority:** Negotiated agreements with the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows.
- **Fourth Priority:** All other outside groups.

The above priorities apply, except where a Board approved agreement requires otherwise. Despite historical rights, any user may be bumped from a particular time, day or facility or grounds based on the priority of use noted above. The group doing the bumping is expected to give as much notice as is possible.

The [Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act](#) prohibits all persons from smoking, using tobacco, holding lighted tobacco, or using an e-cigarette in or on school property. Ceremonial use of tobacco may be permitted with the approval of the Superintendent or designate.

The consumption of cannabis is prohibited at all times on school district property and in all school district facilities.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages on school district property may be permitted in some circumstances. The specific requirements for this use can be found in Board Policy 5905 Alcohol – Consumption, Possession and Storage.

APPROVED: September 25, 2013

UPDATED: February 2024