

West Bonner County School District

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

4210

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are available to the community for education, civic, cultural, and other non-commercial uses consistent with the public interest, ~~when such use does not interfere with the school program or school-sponsored activities.~~ Such facilities may also be used for the operation of a senior citizen center. ~~Use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. Persons on school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.~~

Community use of West Bonner County School District #83 facilities shall be based on the following beliefs:

1. School facilities shall be provided primarily for the education of pupils.
2. Schools belong to the community and shall be available for other use, provided:
 - a. The activity shall not interfere with the educational program;
 - b. A community or civic group shall process a Facilities Use application and assume responsibility and liability of the use and care of the requested school facilities;
 - c. the user shall agree to the conditions stipulated on the form "Application for use of School Facilities."

~~Student and school-related organizations shall be granted the use of school facilities at no cost. Other organizations granted the use of the facility shall pay fees and costs.~~ The Superintendent shall develop procedures to manage community use of school facilities, which shall be reviewed and approved by the Board ~~with each revision and update.~~ Use of school facilities requires the Superintendent's approval and is subject to the procedures ~~developed by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Trustees.~~

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

Category 1 - School-Related or Child-Related Groups or other Government Agencies

Groups in this category are basically community groups (church or secular) whose memberships involve school-age children whose leaders or advisors are non-paid adults and whose main purpose is to in some way educate the youngest member. These groups will not be charged a rental fee for the use of the buildings. However, they will be charged custodial fees should their use of the facility require man-hours beyond those which the custodial staff would have needed had the building not been used by the community group.

Category 2 - Nonprofit Groups

This category includes community non-profit organization with IRS Section 501- (c) 3 status (IRS numbers) and community groups of people whose leaders, advisors or coaches are paid adults who wish to use facilities owned by the school district which may require membership

dues of entrance fees for lectures, promotional activities, political rallies, entertainment, college courses, athletic groups, exercise groups, dance groups, church services or church activities for which public halls or commercial facilities generally are rented. The district shall charge a rental rate, which will recover utility, capital expense, maintenance, energy and overhead costs for the use of the facility. Should there be custodial costs incurred as a result of the use, additional custodial costs will also be charged.

Category 3.- Commercial Enterprises

This group shall include for-profit organizations not listed in #1 or #2 and non-profit organizations from outside the community.

Short-Term Use - Facility Use Agreement

Application for use of school facilities shall be made for use up to four months.: Terms of use will be further spelled out in the Facility Use Agreement.

Long-Term Use - Rental Lease

Application for use of school facilities shall be made for use four months or longer.: Terms of use will be further spelled out in a formal Rental Lease..

The administration shall approve and schedule the various uses of the school facilities. A master calendar will be kept in the office for scheduling dates to avoid conflicts during the school year. Requests for use of the school facilities must be submitted in advance of the event to the Superintendent's office.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-601 Real and personal property – Acquisition, use or disposal of same.
I.C. § 33-602 Use of school property or buildings for senior citizen centers
Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School Dist., 113 S.Ct. 2141

Policy History:

Adopted on: March 12, 2008

Revised on: