

POLICY

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

File Code: 1330

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Prudent use and management of school facilities outside of the regular operating schedules--providing that such use does not interfere with the orderly conduct of a thorough and efficient system of education--allows the community to benefit more broadly from the use of the property.

Persons or organizations desiring to use school facilities must submit a Facility Use Application Form to the chief school administrator for review before presentation to the board for approval. The following list of users is to be considered:

Class I - Groups directly related to the school and the operations of the school (such as PTA, QEA);

Class II - Organizations indirectly related to the Franklin Township School students (such as youth sports, scouting, recreation);

Local, County, State or Federal Departments or government agencies.

Class III - Franklin Township community organizations formed for charitable, civic, educational purposes;

Outside organizations formed for charitable, civic, educational, or recreational purposes.

The use of school facilities shall not be granted for the advantage of any commercial or profit-making organization, private social functions, or any purpose which is prohibited by law.

The board may refuse to grant the use of a school facility whenever in its judgment there is good reason why permission should be refused. The Board shall not be required to give a reason for such refusal. The

building may not be available for community use during holidays, vacation periods, or during the time school is not in session over the summer when the programs interfere with cleaning and maintenance schedules.

Smoking, the possession of or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled dangerous substances, and illegal gambling are prohibited at all times on any school property. All facility users shall comply with state and local fire, health, safety, and police regulations including current drug-free school zone and workplace policy.

The board reserves the right to charge a fee for the use of facilities and/or a fee for additional staffing or policing. The board may also deem it necessary to impose a fee for additional expenses incurred during the usage or for restoring the facility to its original condition.

Use of school equipment in conjunction with the use of the school facilities must be specifically requested in writing and may be granted in accordance with the procedures by which permission to use facilities is granted. The user of school equipment must accept liability for any damage to or loss of such equipment that occurs while it is in use. Where rules so specify, no item of equipment may be used except by a qualified operator.

The board shall require that all users of school facilities comply with the policies of this board and the rules and regulations of this district. Each group shall sign the appropriate application form and receive copies of regulations related to use of facilities and drug-free workplace. Complete applications must be presented to allow for sufficient time for the board to review at regularly scheduled meetings. Each user shall provide organizational liability insurance not less than \$1,000,000 and product liability insurance, where applicable, as an absolute pre requisite to use of facilities, naming the Franklin Township Board of Education as the certificate holder.

Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as endorsement of or approval of the activity, person, group, or organization, nor the purposes they represent.

Political Activity

As used in this section, "school property" shall mean a building or buildings used for school operations.

Candidates for elective public office, holders of elected public office or their agent or representative are prohibited from soliciting campaign contributions on school property. No person shall make contributions, directly or indirectly, to or on behalf of any candidate for elective public office, or the candidate committee or joint candidates committee of any such candidate, while on school property.

This shall not apply to persons or groups reserving or renting school property for a nongovernmental purpose as a meeting location.

Any person in violation of this policy may be reported to the Election Law Enforcement Commission and liable to a penalty of not less than \$5000, for each violation.

Previously referenced as Policy 707, 712

Date adopted: 5/15/00

Date revised: 6/22/09

Date revised: 4/25/11

Date revised: 1/9/12

Date revised: 2/25/13

Date reviewed: 4/27/15

Date revised: 6/18/18

Cross reference: Policy 2210