

Article VIII.A.28 School Building & Grounds as Civic Centers

A. Purpose

Pursuant to Utah Code 53G-7-209 and 210, the Board of Education establishes district facilities, including both schools and grounds, as limited public forum civic centers for district residents and promulgates the following guidelines.

B. Use of School Building Guidelines

1. Disclosure

Individuals or entities who wish to rent facilities must disclose the nature of the event or activity for which the rental is being requested, the anticipated number of participants, and the intended duration of the event or activity in writing with the application before a rental will be approved.

2. Priorities

a. School Activities and Programs

The primary use of school buildings is for student instruction and school programs. All other uses are subordinate to this primary use.

b. Government Sponsored Use

The second priority for scheduling the use of school buildings is for government-sponsored programs. Political parties fall within this category.

c. Other Public Use

The third priority for the use of school buildings is for use by other entities, whether non-profit or for-profit. Within this priority, preference is given to district residents providing opportunities primarily for Granite School District students and patrons.

3. Rental Parameters

Any rental, whether recurring multiple times throughout a year, lasting multiple days, or otherwise, does not constitute a lease and does not transfer any property interest. A renter may schedule multiple day events or multiple activities throughout the year, according to each facility's application procedures, subject to availability. The district reserves the right to determine availability and to cancel rentals at any time if emergencies or unforeseen exigencies arise. In relation to

scheduling, beyond the priorities outlined herein, no preference shall be afforded to any individual, organization, or entity.

4. Fees

Fees may be charged for the use of school buildings. The district administration shall establish reasonable fees and update those fees regularly. A facility impact fee will be assessed for rentals on days the facilities would otherwise be empty and/or unavailable. This facility impact fee amount will cover added costs of utilities. Rental fees will be sufficient so that the school and district incur no expense for their use.

5. Required Personnel

The school administration, in consultation with School Accountability Services and Granite Police, within the district's sole discretion, will identify district personnel needed for a particular use, including personnel to handle set up, supervision, and clean up for any event or activity. District personnel are required to operate kitchen equipment, stage lighting, sound systems, and other specialty equipment. If two hundred (200) or more participants are anticipated for any event, or if the nature of the event necessitates, renters will be required to request additional security personnel.

6. Presumption in Favor of Allowing Use

- a. Use of a school building shall be allowed unless the use would interfere with a school function or purpose. Examples of interference include, but are not limited to the following:
 - i. The use overlaps with instruction time, infringes on logistics of managing and supervising students, precludes properly securing the premises, or otherwise unreasonably imposes on students or employees.
 - ii. The use would put a school at risk of theft or vandalism (e.g. use of classrooms with unsecured equipment or materials).
 - iii. The use would require a physical change to the school or a change to the nature of a building's normal use (e.g. exchanging small elementary chairs for larger chairs so adults can hold a meeting).
 - iv. Particular renter, users, or attendees have a record of abusing facilities or criminal activity associated with building use.
- b. Facilities are limited public forums and not all uses will be deemed appropriate for district facilities. Any decision regarding use or limitation of use is within the district's sole discretion and will have a rational basis. Similarly situated users will be treated similarly.

7. Requests for Use

District administration shall prepare a standard agreement for making requests for use. The agreement shall include minimum liability assumptions and insurance levels as required by State Risk Management. Applicants shall assume the provisions of the agreement as a precondition of use.

C. Use of Grounds

Use of grounds shall be governed by the provisions of board policy.

1. Article VII.C.2. Grounds Use
2. Article VII.C.3. Safeguarding the Use of School Grounds

D. General Use Restrictions

1. All building rentals shall end no later than 11:00 PM and outdoor rentals shall end by 10:00 PM.
2. Under no circumstances shall alcohol, tobacco, or any controlled substance otherwise prohibited on school or district property be permitted or consumed during an event or activity on district property.
3. No events or activities shall be held on district property that are likely to result in damage to facilities; can promote, entice, or inspire unlawful or disruptive conduct; or may otherwise cause harm to a school or the district. School facilities, for example, shall not be used for public dances.
4. Organizations or entities that have failed to comply with rental agreements, follow district policy, and/or abide by state or federal laws will be precluded from further rentals.