

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The board subscribes to the belief that public schools are owned and operated by and for the community. The public is encouraged to use school facilities, but will be expected to reimburse the district for such use to ensure that funds intended for education are not used for other purposes. On recommendation of the superintendent, the board will set the rental rate schedule.

The superintendent is authorized to establish procedures for use of school facilities, including rental rates, supervisory requirements, restrictions, and security. Those using school facilities will maintain insurance for accident and liability covering persons using the district's facilities under the sponsorship of the organization (minimum million dollar coverage). The District reserves the right to cancel at any time facility rental agreements, if the District needs facilities for District use. For rental rate purposes, organizations seeking the use of school facilities have been divided into four categories:

The district does not discriminate based on race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability and provides equal access to Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Community athletics programs that use district facilities will not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex in the operation, conduct or administration of their programs. The district will provide copies of the district's nondiscrimination policy to all third parties using district facilities.

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

Group 1 Omak Community Youth - Non-Profit & Government Organizations

Agencies include those organizations whose main purpose is to promote the welfare of students or to provide members of the community, access to government programs or opportunities for civic participation. Local Use Agreements, Parent-Teacher organizations, Advisory Committees, AAU, Omak Parks and Recreation, Booster Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4H, Omak Fire and Police Departments, Kiwanis, Rotary, presidential political caucuses, Special Olympics are illustrative of this group. The district will provide official recruiting representatives of the state and United States military forces, Job Corps, Peace Corps and AmeriCorps with access to school facilities (including number of days and type of presentation space) equal to and no less than the access provided to other post-secondary occupational or educational representatives. When facilities are used outside of regular school hours or the district incurs extra utility, cleaning or supervision costs, a fee, to be established by the superintendent, will be charged to recoup those costs.

Group 2 Omak Community Adult Programs

This group consists of organizations that serve the Omak community in a general and civic nature and whose chief reason for existence is the betterment of the adult, the Omak community and the State. Community clubs, service clubs, adult athletics and churches fall into this category.

Group 3 Non-District Youth - Non-Profit

This include those organizations may use school facilities for lectures, promotional activities, political rallies, entertainment, college courses, or other activities for which public halls or commercial facilities generally are rented or owned. The district will charge a rental rate in excess of costs incurred. Excess charges may be waived when a service club or other nonprofit group is raising funds for charitable purposes.

To be granted this exception, the charitable organization must be recognized by the Philanthropic Division of the Better Business Bureau. Professional fund raisers representing charities must provide evidence that they are registered and bonded by the state of Washington. Such fund-raisers must provide evidence that the charity will receive at least sixty (60) percent of the gross revenues received from the public prior to approval to use the facilities.

Similar treatment may be granted public universities and colleges when offering college courses within the community or when a university/college is offering a course for staff at the request of the district. Nonprofit groups of the kind that in most communities have their own facilities (churches, lodges, veterans groups, granges, etc.) who wish to use district facilities on a regular, but temporary, basis may do so under this rental rate. This group includes non-profit organizations whose membership comes largely from outside the district or has more than 51% or more attendance by non-Omak school district students, or residents.

Group 4 For Profit Events

This includes profit-making organizations and business-related enterprises. While the district would prefer organizations to use commercial or private facilities, facilities may be rented for non-regular use at the prevailing rate charged by commercial facilities in the area.

District-sponsored activities, including curricular and co-curricular functions, retain first priority in use of facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities will not be considered as endorsement or approval of the activity group or organization

Legal References:	RCW 4.24.660	Liability of school districts under contracts with youth programs
	RCW 28A.230.180	Access to campus and student information directories by official recruiting representative – Informing students of educational and career opportunities.
	RCW 28A.320.510	Night schools, summer schools, meetings, use of facilities for
	RCW 28A.335.150	Permitting use and rental of playgrounds, athletic fields, or athletic facilities
	RCW 28A.335.155	Use of buildings for youth programs — Limited immunity
	20 USC Sec. 7905	Boy Scout of America Equal Access Act

34 CFR Sec. 108.6

Equal Access to Public School Facilities For
The Boy Scouts of America and Other
Designated Youth Groups

AGO 1973 No. 26, Initiative No. 276

School districts — Use of school facilities
for presentation of programs —
Legislature — Elections

Management Resources:

Policy News, August 2009

Policy News, December 2011

Policy and Legal News, July 2013

Policy and Legal News, February 2014

Concussion and Head Injuries Legislation
Policy Manual Revisions

Equal access to K-12 campuses law goes
into effect

Other updates/corrections

Adoption Date: 02/23/99

Revision: 11/23/99, 02/09/01 (Legal reference update only), 11/23/10, 02/28/12
9/24/13; 4/22/14