

7510 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The district facilities belong to the community, which pays for them for the primary purpose of offering a full educational program for its children. Prudent use and management of school facilities outside of the regular school operating schedules--providing that such use does not interfere with the orderly conduct of a thorough and efficient system of education, and is otherwise permitted by law--allows the community to benefit more broadly from the use of the school district property. Authorization for use of school facilities shall not in itself be considered as Board endorsement of or approval of the activity, person, group, or organization nor of the purposes they represent. The Board shall comply with the Federal Equal Access Act in granting pupils access to facilities. The Board may suspend this policy at any time and with respect to any or all of the district facilities whenever it shall determine that it is necessary or desirable to do so in order to protect its plant or educational programs.

The Superintendent shall establish proper rules of order for the use of district properties. Any persons violating the rules may be denied the use of school facilities. No person or organization(s) may use the school facilities for non-school purposes without prior approval of the superintendent's designee.

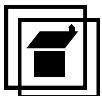
Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as endorsement of or approval of the activity, person, group or organization nor the purposes they represent.

The Superintendent shall devise detailed regulations to:

1. Set up application and review procedures to guarantee that no one group monopolizes the facilities unfairly;
2. Make clear the conditions under which use is granted, such as insurance coverage, care of property, chaperones, etc.

The superintendent's designee is authorized to approve the schedule of rates for facility use for meetings or activities of these groups according to the guidelines set forth in the accompanying regulations. The board reserves the right to approve or deny the use of a facility when there is any question of how that activity relates to the general philosophy of the district.

The superintendent's designee is authorized to propose for Board approval long term, non-exclusive leases/licenses for the use of school facilities in lieu of hourly usage charges, on commercially reasonable terms.



POLICY

HOPEWELL VALLEY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Property
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The Board may also approve full or partial abatements of usage fees for organizations making substantial capital commitments to the district's facilities infrastructure development and major maintenance.

The Superintendent may authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to grant a full or partial waiver of fees to any non-profit organization in the community to permit such organization facilities access. Such waivers may also be predicated on the provision of in-kind services to the school district by the organization in lieu of cash fee payments.

The building may not be used for activities that reflect on or discriminate against persons or groups based on race, religion, sex or national origin.

Religiously affiliated groups located in the district may be permitted to use school buildings for a period of two years. Permits may be renewed by the Board of Education for additional one-year periods. Applicants for renewal of permits must be in the process of acquiring their own permanent accommodations. The Board of Education reserves the right to grant an additional extension when the organization shows a good cause, and present in written form reason for such an extension.

Users shall assume full responsibility for damages caused by or during such use. The school district shall not be held liable for injuries to persons occurring as a result of buildings or grounds use. All users not directly affiliated with the district shall provide a certificate of insurance (with a minimum of \$1,000,000 liability coverage) in advance, naming Hopewell Valley Regional School District as an additional insured, to indemnify and hold the board harmless against any liability or loss occurring as a result of building or grounds use.

Adopted: 27 April 2009

Replacement reviewed by Finance/Facilities Committee: 8/10/11, First Reading: 9/19/11, Second Reading and Adoption: 10/17/11

