

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Revised Policy 2070

### **Community Use of School Facilities, Property and Equipment**     **2070** **Animals on School Grounds**

#### **School Facilities**

School facilities may be used during non-school hours by district residents for educational, cultural, social, recreational, civic and other legitimate purposes which are open to the general public. Use of facilities, however, will be subject to the conditions set forth in this policy and in regulations developed by the Superintendent.

District facilities are preserved for the benefit of the greater District community, only community-based groups and organizations (that is, groups which are located within the geographic area covered by a District) may be granted access to District facilities. However, the District reserves the right to make exceptions on a case by case basis, where the organization benefits the community as a whole (ex. Red Cross).

School activities have priority over non-school uses of the buildings on any given date. It should be understood that school events may make it necessary to cancel or postpone previously approved applications. Second priority will be given to Town-supported recreation programs, as a part of the Board's commitment to encourage and support such programs. Third priority will be given to all other approved community activities.

When admission is charged, the proceeds thereof are to be expended for an educational or charitable purpose only. School facilities may not be used for meetings or activities which are under the exclusive control of, and the proceeds of which are to be applied for the benefit of, a secret society or religious sect. School facilities may not be used to distribute partisan literature on school issues or votes to students for their parents. Any use of school building/facilities for personal profit or advantage is not permissible.

The Board or their designee reserves the right to refuse permission for use of school facilities for purposes which it deems harmful to the building, the district as a whole, or against existing law. The Board also reserves the right to refuse permission for the use of school facilities to groups whose compliance with the Board's regulations for such use has been unsatisfactory in the past.

#### **School Grounds and Equipment**

All unauthorized use of school property and equipment is prohibited. The Superintendent will establish regulations for authorizing such use (e.g., application and authorization procedures, fees, insurance requirements, etc.) consistent with the following principles:

- All District property and equipment are to be used first to further the educational process of the District; any other use must not interfere with this educational process; and
- Activities which might produce either hazards to people or damage to school property must be supervised by a responsible individual(s) **and for instructional purposes only.**
- **All animals are prohibited from school grounds, athletic fields, or at public events, except as permitted by the building principal for instructional or safety purposes. Service dogs and properly identified service dogs in training will be exempt from the terms of this policy.**