

Community Relations

Community Use of School Facilities

To ensure a close relationship between the District and the community, it shall be the policy of the School Board to permit the use of school facilities by individuals and community groups. School facilities are available to community organizations and individuals during non-school hours when such use does not: (1) interfere with any school function or affect the safety of students or employees or (2) affect the property or liability of the School District. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. The District reserves the right to cancel previously scheduled use of facilities by community organizations and other groups. The use of school facilities requires the prior approval of the Superintendent or designee and is subject to applicable procedures.

Persons on school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.

The School Board shall continue to control and supervise the public school buildings and school grounds in its District. In addition, the Board may grant temporary use of District facilities for purposes as the Board deems proper. The Board reserves the right to deny any request for the use of facilities at its discretion so long as it is not for illegal, discriminatory purposes.

Control and supervision of District facilities and properties shall be governed by the following guidelines:

- use which is consistent with the public welfare and the purposes of the District;
- use which promotes benefit to District residents;
- use which does not appear to have potential to result in damage or in no way might result in damage to District property or physical danger to District students or personnel;
- use which is consistent with the administrative procedures of the District and the laws and regulations of the State of Illinois;
- use which in no way is intended to further any program or movement whose purpose is to accomplish the overthrow of the government of the United States or of the state by force, violence or other unlawful means.

The use of Pekin Community High School 303 property for non-school events shall be governed by the Board. No school building will be open for use by any outside groups unless the building is under the supervision of a District employee. Approval of the use of any facility and cost of such usage shall be by one of the following methods:

1. Pekin Park District - activities approved by the Pekin High School Superintendent. Pekin Community High School shall allow the use of its facilities to the Pekin Park District on a reciprocal arrangement basis.
2. Outside: All Educational Institutions - on a special arrangement basis as approved by the Superintendent.
3. Rental - the Pekin Community High School Board may rent its facilities to civic, religious, charitable, educational, and profit & non-profit organizations according to a fee schedule established by the School Board.

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to grant approval for the use of these facilities. When such use is authorized, the using organization shall ensure that school property is not misused and shall pay for any costs incurred by the use of the facility.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7905, Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, 10 ILCS 5/11 Election Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.41, 5/10-22.10, and 5/29-3.5, Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 533 U.S. 98 (2001), Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, U.S. 384 (1993), Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Va., 515 U.S. 819 (1995).

CROSS REF.: 7.330 (Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access), 8.25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities), 8.30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property).

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