

Policy - Community

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

The district facilities belong to the community, which paid 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 operating schedules--providing that such use does not interfere with the orderly conduct of a thorough and efficient system of education--allows the community to benefit more broadly from the use of its own property.

The board will permit the use of school facilities when such permission has been requested in writing and has been approved by the chief school administrator for:

- A. Uses and groups directly related to the school and the operations of the school;
- B. Uses and organizations indirectly related to the school;
- C. Departments or agencies of the municipal government;
- D. Other governmental agencies;
- E. Community organizations formed for charitable, civic or educational purposes.
- F. Profit Making Organizations (Student-Related Programs Only)

The use of school facilities will not be granted for private social functions or any purpose which is prohibited by law.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, profit making organizations (for student related programs) will be charged hourly fees as follows:

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|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Use of School Facilities – Monday - Friday | \$15.00 per hour per room |
| Use of School Facilities – Weekends | \$40.00 per hour per room |

In the event the chief school administrator deems it advisable, any application may be submitted to the board of education for action.

The chief school administrator or board of education may refuse to grant the use of a school building whenever in their judgment there is good reason why permission should be refused.

Smoking is prohibited at all times in any district building or on school grounds. No one may bring alcoholic beverages onto any school property. All facility use will comply with state and local fire, health, safety and police regulations.

The buildings will not be available for community use during holidays, vacation periods, or during the time school is not in session over the summer when the programs interfere with cleaning and maintenance schedules.

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (continued)

Use of school equipment in conjunction with the use of school facilities must be specifically requested in writing and may be granted by the procedure by which permission to use facilities is granted. The user of school equipment must accept liability for any damage to or loss of such equipment that occurs while it is in use. Where rules so specify, no item of equipment may be used except by a qualified operator.

Use of district equipment on the premises by non-school personnel is limited to the equipment that is an integral part of the facility being used, i.e., the stage lights and piano in the auditorium, the basketball baskets in the gym. No district equipment will be removed from the premises for use by non-district personnel.

The board will require that all users of school facilities comply with policies of this board and the rules and regulations of this district. Each user will present evidence of the purchase of organizational liability insurance to the limit prescribed by such rules.

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

Approved by the Morris Plains Board of Education

Date: August 23, 2011

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 2C:33-16 Alcoholic beverages; bringing or possession on school property by person of legal age; penalty
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.S.A. 18A:20-34 Use of schoolhouse and grounds for various purposes
N.J.S.A. 26:3D-55 et seq. New Jersey Smoke-Free Air Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 Powers of board (county vocational schools)
N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.2(a)4 Policies and procedures for school facility operation

20 U.S.C.A. 4071 – 4074 – Equal Access Act

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act (Pro Children Act of 1994), Pub. L. 103-227

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Resnick v. East Brunswick Twp. Bd. of Ed., 77 N.J. 88 (1978)

Boy Scouts of America v. Dale, 120 S.Ct. 2446 (2000)

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 S.Ct. 2093 (2001)

Cross References: 1230 School-connected organizations
3514 Equipment
3515 Smoking prohibition
6145 Extracurricular activities