

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

8:20 Community Use of School Buildings and Grounds

The Board of Education encourages the use of all school facilities and grounds by the community it serves whenever such use is consistent with sound educational or community goals. An application for use of school facilities shall be made to the Superintendent or designee. The Board will prohibit use if it interferes with any school functions, the safety of students or school personnel, or affects the property or liability of the School District.

In the course of community use of facilities and grounds, the Board recognizes that all school properties are located in, or adjacent to, residential neighborhoods and that those neighborhoods should be protected. Community use of school properties should be cognizant of noise, parking, and site management issues. All persons on school premises must abide by District conduct rules at all times. Use of school facilities and grounds shall not materially and/or substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the school.

The Board of Education shall control and supervise all public school buildings and school grounds in its District. As such, the Board of Education may grant temporary use of District facilities for purposes the Board deems appropriate. The activities associated with the School District's educational program will have first priority; community use will have second priority; and use by organizations based within Geneva Community Unit School District 304 will receive third priority. The Board of Education shall not be required to alter facilities to accommodate the needs of users.

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

- A. Use which promotes or benefits District residents.
- B. Use which will not result in damage to District property or physical danger to District students or personnel or other authorized users.
- C. Use which is consistent with the administrative procedures of the District and the laws and regulations of the State of Illinois.
- D. Use which will not be 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 Board of Education shall make District grounds and/or facilities available, at no charge for civil defense shelters for the housing, feeding, and care of victims or potential victims when requested by local, State, or Federal authorities.

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent, or designee, to establish and maintain administrative procedures through fees that will be charged for rental or use of facilities.

LEGAL REF.:

Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, [20 U.S.C. §7905](#).

[10 ILCS 5/19-2.2](#).

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.40](#), [5/10-22.10](#), and [5/29-3.5](#).

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

[Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District](#), 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).

[Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Va.](#), 515 U.S. 819 (1995).

CROSS REF.: 7:330 (Student Use of Building - 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)

ADOPTED: April 22, 2019