

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

Section: Board and Community

- **Community Use of Facilities/Partnerships**

**Policy: COMMUNITY USE AND ACCESS TO
SCHOOL FACILITIES**

Policy Code: B-8.2

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Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, along with the Ministry of Education, has a vision for schools as the centres of their communities, where all people have a place to come together, to volunteer, build skills, access programs, become physically active and develop strong and healthy communities.

It is the policy of the Board to make school facilities available and accessible to community users to the fullest extent possible within established regulations, having due regard for:

- preservation of the educational program of the school,
- the protection and maintenance of school property,
- budgetary considerations, and
- the values and beliefs of Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board.

The Board recognizes the interdependence of public bodies and will co-operate wherever possible with the provision of facilities, while acknowledging that providing educational programs to students is the prime objective of the Board. The Board may enter into joint use agreements, for example with local municipal recreation departments, community organizations or shared space contracts and leases with child care partners for the use of specified school facilities. In such cases the rates established will supersede those specified for the Community Use of Schools.

School board facilities will be made available to a variety of groups, according to the subsidy and fee schedule outlined on the school board website. Priority will be given to not-for-profit organizations that benefit the Board's students.

The Board will co-operate with all levels of government in the use of Board facilities for elections. Wherever possible, principals are required to rearrange existing programs to accommodate election proceedings. The Board will request that election organizers provide a monitor to escort voters to and from the school entrance to the poll, to ensure student safety. Any fee for election purposes is dictated by Elections Canada. The Board will endeavour to rent facilities to organizations whose goals, aims, principles and objectives are consistent with the Board's goals and values of education. Employee groups (Board unions) may be granted free use of school facilities if no labour costs are incurred. Any labour costs incurred shall be assumed by the user group, as appropriate. Activities such as the consumption of alcohol and/or gaming will not be permitted on Board property. The Board retains the right to refuse the use of Board facilities and to reserve facilities for Board use. Out of necessity, repair and maintenance of the Board's buildings will take precedence over permitted use.

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In recognition of their support for community partnerships, schools will receive an annual stipend for general maintenance, supplies, equipment or school improvements that will benefit both the school and community. This amount will be calculated equitably based on the previous year's community use permit hours.

Community Use Rules and Regulations, available on the school board website and attached to all approved permits, outline expectations for the safe and acceptable use of Board facilities.

An annual report on the community use of schools shall be presented to the Board at a June Board meeting.

Administrative regulations will be maintained to implement the philosophy and intent of this policy.

Established: April 27, 2000

Revision Dates: May 25, 2006
November 22, 2007
January 28, 2010
May 27, 2010
April 23, 2015