

Community Relations

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are available to the community for education, civic, cultural, and other non-commercial uses consistent with the public interest when such use does not interfere with the school program or school-sponsored activities. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. Persons on school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.

Student and school-related organizations and municipalities shall be granted the use of school facilities at no cost. Other organizations granted use of facilities shall pay fees and costs.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to manage community use of school facilities. Use of school facilities requires the Superintendent's approval and is subject to the procedures.

Community Relations

Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

No material or literature shall be posted or distributed that would: (1) disrupt the educational process, (2) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (3) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (4) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent.

Community, Educational, Charitable, or Recreational Organizations

Community, educational, charitable, recreational, or similar groups may, under procedures established by the Superintendent, advertise events pertinent to students' interests or involvement. This may include displaying posters in areas reserved for community posters, having flyers distributed to students, or being included in the school's or District's website where appropriate. All material and literature must be student-oriented and have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed.

Commercial Companies and Political Candidates or Parties

Commercial companies may purchase space for their advertisements in or on: (1) athletic field fences, (2) athletic, theater, or music programs, (3) scoreboards, or (4) other appropriate location, provided the advertisements are consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the School Board. No Board approval is needed for commercial material related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings.

No part of the School District, including facilities, the name, the staff, and the students, shall be used for advertising or promoting the interests of any commercial company except as authorized by and consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the Board.

Material from candidates and political parties will not be accepted for posting or distribution, except when used as part of the curriculum.

Community Relations

Conduct on School Property

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all individuals on school property or at a school event. No person on school property or at a school event shall:

1. Injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, a School Board member, or any other person;
2. Damage or threaten to damage another's property;
3. Damage or deface School District property;
4. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance;
5. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products;
6. Consume, possess, distribute, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs, or possess dangerous devices or weapons;
7. Impede, delay, or otherwise interfere with the orderly conduct of the District's educational program or any other activity occurring on school property;
8. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those which are lawful and authorized by the School Board;
9. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive;
10. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding; or
11. Violate other District policies or regulations, or an authorized District employee's directive.

"School property" means school buildings, vehicles used for school purposes, and school grounds.

State law prohibits a child sex offender from:

- Being present in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at school related activity, or
- Loitering on a public way within 500 feet of school property,

when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is a parent/guardian of a student present in the building, on the grounds, or in the vehicle, or unless the offender has permission to be present from the Superintendent or the School Board. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal. The Superintendent, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

As circumstances warrant, the District's administrators shall take appropriate action in enforcement of this policy. Violations will be handled as follows:

- Anyone observing a student violating this policy shall notify the Building Principal where the student is enrolled and the Principal shall take whatever action is appropriate under the student conduct code.
- The supervisor of any employee violating this policy shall take whatever action is appropriate according to personnel rules and bargaining agreements, if any.
- Anyone observing a parent/guardian or other person violating this policy shall immediately notify the Building Principal or designee. The Principal or designee will request that the person act civilly or otherwise refrain from the prohibited conduct. If the person persists with uncivil or prohibited behavior, the principal shall request that the person immediately leave school property and may contact law enforcement, if appropriate.

Community Relations

Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Extracurricular Events

Any person, including adults, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner during an athletic or extracurricular event may be ejected from the event the person is attending and/or denied admission to school events for up to a one calendar year after a School Board hearing. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include:

- using vulgar or obscene language;
- possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance;
- possessing a weapon;
- fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person;
- failing to obey the instructions of a security officer or school district employee; and
- engaging in any activity which is illegal or disruptive.

The Superintendent may seek to deny future admission to any person by delivering or mailing a notice, sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least 10 days before the School Board hearing date, containing:

1. The date, time, and place of a Board hearing;
2. A description of the unsportsmanlike conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied; and
4. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

Community Relations

Visitors to the Schools

Visitors are welcome at any School District building, provided their presence will not be disruptive. All visitors shall initially report to the Building Principal's office. Any person wishing to confer with a staff member shall contact that staff member by telephone to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school grounds or in any school building; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who: (1) refuses to provide requested identification, (2) interferes with, disrupts, or threatens to disrupt any school activity or the learning environment, (3) or engages in an activity in violation of Board policy 8:30, *Conduct on School Property*.

Community Relations

Gifts to the District

The School Board accepts gifts from any education foundation or other entity or individual, provided the gift can be used in a manner compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies. While the Board encourages unrestricted gifts, donations to fund specific projects are acceptable if the project is approved by the Board. All gifts received become the School District's property.

Community Relations

Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

The District shall cooperate with other organizations and agencies, including, but not limited to, the:

- County Health Department;
- law enforcement agencies;
- fire authorities;
- planning authorities;
- zoning authorities; and
- other school districts.

Community Relations

Public Complaints

The School Board is interested in receiving valid complaints and suggestions. Public complaints or suggestions shall be referred to the appropriate level staff member or District administrator. Each complaint or suggestion shall be considered on its merits.

An individual, not satisfied after following the channels of authority, may file a grievance under the Uniform Grievance Procedure. This policy shall not be construed to create an independent right to a hearing before the Board.