

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Statement of Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Education of the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township to construct, maintain, and operate facilities necessary for the instructional/and or co/extracurricular mission of the District. When these facilities can be made available for other community uses without compromising the instructional/and or co/extracurricular mission of the District, the Board will make District facilities available.

If a District facility is used by a not-for-profit entity, the Board will charge a fee that is calculated to recover the added costs resulting from the use of the facility. If the facility is used by a for-profit entity, the Board will charge a fee for use of its facilities based upon the charges for the use of similar facilities.

Decisions concerning requests for the use of the District shall be the responsibility of the Operations Department acting under the supervision of the Superintendent and/or designee. Enforcement of this Policy shall be the responsibility of the administrator with responsibility for the activities in a specific District facility. As used in this Policy, “administrator” means a District supervisory employee with responsibility for the activities at a District facility. The term includes the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent(s), directors, coordinators, building principals, assistant principals, and deans.

The use of District grounds and facilities shall not be granted for:

- a. Private use and/or social functions
- b. Any purpose which is prohibited by law.
- c. Any purpose that may be reasonably believed to interfere with school-related activities.

All District Standards Applicable

All District policies, rules, and regulations, including the Student Code of Conduct, apply to anyone attending an event on District property. Any individual violating District policies, rules, regulations, or Code of Conduct may be immediately excluded from District property and appropriate authorities may be alerted (including but not limited to law enforcement and the administration of the school district attended by a violating student). No liability shall attach to this District, any employee, officer, or member of this District specifically as a consequence of permitting access to these facilities.

Playgrounds Considered A Community Physical Fitness Activity

The District’s owned and operated playgrounds are to be considered school property, equipment,

and facilities to which the general public is invited to use during non-school d a y l i g h t hours. Thereby, pursuant to I.C. 34-31-10, the Board approves general and normal playground activity as a “community use physical fitness activity,” and by enacting this Policy, the Board intends to take the liability protections offered in I.C. 34-31-10.

The general public shall not be charged any fee for use of the District’s owned and operated playgrounds.

On each playground covered by this Policy, the Superintendent shall see that a sign is posted in a conspicuous location stating the following, in letters at least one inch in height:

WARNING

Under Indiana law, a school is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in physical fitness activities at this location if the death or injury results from the inherent risks of the physical fitness activity.

Inherent risks of physical fitness activities include risks of injury inherent in exercise, the nature of a sport, the use of exercise equipment, or the use of a facility provided by a school.

Inherent risks also include the potential that you may act in a negligent manner that may contribute to your injury or death, or that other participants may act in a manner that may result in injury or death to you.

You are assuming the risk of participating in this physical fitness activity.

Administrative Guidelines and Procedures

The Operations Department may designate another administrator to perform the tasks assigned to that position under this Policy. The Superintendent and/or designee is authorized to adopt rules, forms and procedures to implement this Policy, including permitted and prohibited use of facilities and how to reserve facilities.

I.C. 20-26-5-1
I.C. 20-26-5-4
I.C. 34-31-10
I.C. 34-31-11.4
511 I.A.C. 6-2-1(b)(5)

MSD of Washington Township

Adopted: 7/24/24
Revised: [Date]