

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

I. POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the St. Johnsbury School District to support the community use of school facilities in ways that promote good will, do not adversely affect the educational programs, and complement regular school activities.

II. IMPLEMENTATION:

1. School activities take precedence over all other uses of facilities.
2. Authorization to use school facilities does not imply endorsement or approval of any group or activity.
3. The School District retains responsibility for building security. Groups that use the school facilities will be responsible for reimbursing the School District for custodial and security services if these are utilized beyond the regular school hours. In the case that, pursuant to a negotiated contract, a group is given keys to the building, and that group assumes the full responsibility for security and liability for damages and/or injury.
4. The Principal shall be responsible for maintenance and authorization for use of all facilities and will notify the Superintendent of all reservations. The Principal, in consultation with the administrative team, will establish criteria for the use of school facilities, which will be approved as formal procedures by the Board. The Board authorizes the Principal to waive or amend those procedures as he/she deems appropriate.
5. Whenever community members use school facilities pursuant to this policy they shall comply with the accompanying procedures as well as all state and federal laws. Groups using the facilities who fail to comply with the procedures may lose the privilege of facility use and any contracts signed may become null and void. Further, said organization or individual, will sign the Hold Harmless and Indemnity Agreement, which is attached to this policy.

Legal Reference(s): Boy Scouts of America v. Dale, 530 U.S. 640, 120 S.Ct. 2446 (2000)
Boy Scouts of America v. Till, 2001 WL 315360 (S. D. Fla)
16 V.S.A. §563 (3), (5) (Powers of School Boards)

DATE WARNED: OCTOBER 5, 2007
DATE ADOPTED: OCTOBER 15, 2007