



Book	Policy Manual
Section	7000 Property
Title	USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES
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7510 - **USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES**

The Somerset School District subscribes to the philosophy that public schools are owned and operated by and for its residents and that the schools are an integral part of the community in terms of its intellectual and social expression and development. The use of controlled substances, tobacco, or alcoholic beverages are not permitted on School District property.

The Board of Education recognizes that its facilities can be a valuable asset to the community. Therefore:

- A. The Board encourages the use of school facilities by community groups for purposes that will aid in the promotion of the well-being of children and/or adults of the District when such uses do not interfere with regular school activities.
- B. The Board encourages the use of school facilities as part of a community education program. The Board's philosophy perceives the school as a community center operating in partnership with other groups within the community. Therefore, the Board: (a) gives full endorsement to the concept of a community education program for the Somerset School District; (b) will cooperate in every way reasonable with the municipalities located in the district and other interested community groups in planning and operating a community education program; and, (c) encourages participation and involvement in the use of school facilities by the public and private agencies and institutions which share in the health, welfare and educational interest of the Somerset area community. Groups, agencies and institutions conducting authorized programs for the public, in the public school facilities are considered to be a legitimate extension of the total community education program.

In addition, the Board shall allow the use of school facilities by district residents and district employees for non-school purposes. However, school facilities may not be used for a propriety function by any employee of the district conducted for private gain.

Facilities may not be used for:

- A. Any activity contrary to the public good.
- B. Any activity that violates established standards of decency and good order or that might be injurious to the building, grounds, or equipment or any persons.
- C. Any purpose that is in conflict with a school activity.
- D. Any political purpose unless expressly approved by the Board.
- E. Any commercial or personal gain.

The Board also believes that community use of school facilities should not place a significant burden on the taxpayers of the district.

For purposes of this policy, school facilities include classrooms, gymnasiums, lunch rooms, parking lots, school yards and any other buildings or property which the school district might possess.

An application for the use of school facilities must be completed by all individuals and entities requesting to use the district facilities. The use of school facilities for political, partisan, or commercial activities or by political, partisan, commercial individuals or entities may be permitted only upon approval by the Board. The District Administrator, or designee, is authorized to approve and schedule the use of school facilities for other activities or by other individuals or entities.

The applicant agrees to indemnify, save, and hold free and harmless, the Somerset School District, its officers, agents, and employees, from and against all claims, demands, loss, liability, cost or expense of any kind or nature whatsoever which the School District or its officers, agents or employees, or any of them may sustain or incur, or that may be imposed upon and of them, or injury to, or death of persons or damages to property arising out of, connected with, or attributable to the rental, use and occupancy of School District buildings or property as provided herein.

The Somerset School District does not have liability insurance for the permitted user for non-school sponsored events. The permitted user should have its own liability insurance to cover any such liability. Failure to obtain appropriate liability insurance may expose the permitted user to personal liability.

The District Administrator shall establish rules for conduct and housekeeping that individuals and entities must follow when using school facilities. Individuals and entities using school facilities shall be held responsible for costs of cleanup or repair of damages resulting from use of a school facility.

When school facilities are used under this policy, custodial services and/or supervision by a school employee may be required. The District Administrator will determine what custodial services and/or supervision are required. In cases where such services and/or supervision are required, the cost for such supervision may be assessed to the user.

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Legal 120.12(9), Wis. Stats.
 120.13(17), (19) & (21), Wis. Stats.
 125.09(2) Wis. Stats.
 895.523, Wis. Stats.