

# Gravenstein Union School District

## Board Policy

### Use Of School Facilities

BP 1330

### Community Relations

\*\*\*Note: Education Code 38133 mandates that the Governing Board develop rules and regulations related to the management, direction, and control of school facilities. Pursuant to Education Code 38130-38138 (the Civic Center Act), school facilities are civic centers and, under certain circumstances, members of the school community must be allowed to use them for specified purposes. In granting access for use of school facilities to district residents and community groups, the Board must be careful to avoid discriminating against certain individuals, groups, or viewpoints and thereby violating constitutional requirements, including free speech rights. In *Good News Club v. Milford Central School*, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the school district violated the club's free speech rights when it denied the club use of school facilities for after-school meetings because of the religious nature of the meetings. \*\*\*

The Governing Board believes that school facilities and grounds are a vital community resource which should be used to foster community involvement and development. Therefore, the Board authorizes the use of school facilities by district residents and community groups for purposes specified in the Civic Center Act, to the extent that such use does not interfere with school activities or other school-related uses.

(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

The Superintendent or designee shall give priority to school-related activities in the use of school facilities and grounds. Other uses authorized under the Civic Center Act shall be on a first-come, first-served basis.

\*\*\*Note: Pursuant to Education Code 38133, the Board is mandated to develop rules and regulations which must include the items specified below for the management, direction, and control of school facilities. \*\*\*

For the effective management and control of school facilities and grounds, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain procedures and regulations that: (Education Code 38133)

1. Aid, encourage, and assist groups desiring to use school facilities for approved activities
2. Preserve order in school facilities and on school grounds and protect school facilities, designating a person to supervise this task, if necessary

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive School Safety Plan)  
(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

3. Ensure that the use of school facilities or grounds is not inconsistent with their use for school purposes and does not interfere with the regular conduct of school work

\*\*\*Note: The following paragraph is optional and may be modified to reflect district practice.  
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Subject to prior approval by the Board, the Superintendent or designee may grant the use of school facilities or grounds on those days on which district schools are closed. (Education Code 37220)

(cf. 6115 - Ceremonies and Observances)

There shall be no advertising on school facilities and grounds except as allowed by district policy specified in BP 1325 - Advertising and Promotion.

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)

\*\*\*Note: The following optional paragraph may be modified to reflect district practice. A district may enter into an agreement with another entity for the joint use of school facilities or grounds. For considerations to guide the development of such an agreement, see BP 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements. Any district interested in entering into any such agreement is also encouraged to review CSBA's policy brief Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity Through Joint Use of Facilities and CSBA's publication Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement for tips regarding successful collaboration, information about funding sources for joint use, suggested components of joint use agreements, model agreements, and additional resources. \*\*\*

As necessary to ensure efficient use of school facilities, the Superintendent or designee may, with the Board's approval, enter into an agreement for the joint use of any school facilities or grounds. The Board shall approve any such agreement only if it determines that it is in the best interest of the district and the community.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

## **Fees**

\*\*\*Note: Education Code 38134 authorizes districts to charge an amount "not exceeding" direct costs for the use of school facilities or grounds by community groups and entities. Pursuant to 5 CCR 14041, as added by Register 2014, No. 19, the Board is required to adopt a fee schedule that specifies the hourly fee to be charged by the district either for specific school facilities and grounds or for types or categories of school facilities or grounds (e.g., all gymnasiums or playgrounds), when the district chooses to charge fees for community use of

school facilities and grounds. \*\*\*

The Board shall adopt a comprehensive schedule of fees to be charged for community use of school facilities and grounds, including, but not limited to, the multipurpose room(s), playing or athletic field(s), track and field venue(s), tennis court(s), and outdoor basketball court(s). The schedule of fees shall be prepared in accordance with 5 CCR 14037-14041. (5 CCR 14041)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

\*\*\*Note: In addition, Education Code 38134 mandates each district to adopt a policy specifying the activities and organizations that shall be charged an amount not to exceed direct costs. 5 CCR 14037-14041, as added by Register 2014, No. 19, contain specific rules adopted by the State Board of Education for determining "direct costs" to be charged for use of school facilities and grounds. \*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: The options below provide suggestions on how districts that choose to charge up to direct costs may categorize activities and organizations for that purpose. Option 1 is for use by districts that choose to charge an amount "not exceeding" direct costs to all community groups. Option 2 is for use by districts that choose to grant free use to nonprofit groups organized to promote youth and school activities but charge other groups an amount "not exceeding" direct costs. Option 3 is for use by districts that grant free use to school-related organizations only. \*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: However, regardless of the option chosen, there is an exception for the use of school facilities and grounds for religious services, as noted below. \*\*\*

### **OPTION 1: (Amount not exceeding direct costs to all community groups)**

The Board believes that the use of school facilities or grounds should not result in costs to the district. The Superintendent or designee shall charge all groups granted the use of school facilities or grounds under the Civic Center Act an amount not exceeding direct costs determined in accordance with 5 CCR 14037-14041. (Education Code 38134) The Gravenstein Magnet Program Foundation and Gravenstein Schools Foundation shall be exempt from fees.

Additionally, when any use of school facilities or grounds is for religious services, the district shall charge an amount at least equal to the district's direct costs. (Education Code 38134)

In determining direct costs to be charged for community use of each, or each type of, school facility or grounds, the Superintendent or designee shall calculate, in accordance with 5 CCR 14038, the community's proportionate share of the following costs: (Education Code 38134; 5 CCR 14038-14041)

1. Capital direct costs calculated in accordance with 5 CCR 14039, including the estimated costs of maintenance, repair, restoration, and refurbishment of non-classroom space school facilities or grounds

However, capital direct costs shall not be charged to organizations retained by the district or school to provide instruction or instructional activities to students during school hours or for classroom-based programs that operate after school hours, including, but not limited to, after-school, tutoring, and child care programs. (5 CCR 14037)

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)  
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

2. Operational direct costs calculated in accordance with 5 CCR 14040, including estimated costs of supplies, utilities, janitorial services, other services of district employees and/or contracted workers, and salaries and benefits paid to district employees directly associated with the administration of the Civic Center Act to operate and maintain school facilities and grounds

\*\*\*Note: The following optional paragraph applies to districts that choose to discount direct cost fees based on the type or category of the applicant, such as to groups with tax-exempt status as authorized pursuant to 5 CCR 14041, added by Register 2014, No. 19. \*\*\*

Direct cost fees shall not be discounted to any group or organization except when the discount is specifically authorized in the adopted fee schedule. (5 CCR 14041)

\*\*\*Note: Education Code 38134 requires the district to charge fair rental value when facilities are used for fundraising activities which are not beneficial to youth, public school activities, or charitable purposes, under the conditions specified below. "Fair rental value" is defined as direct costs plus the amortized costs of the school facilities or grounds used for the duration of the activity. \*\*\*

Groups shall be charged fair rental value when using school facilities or grounds for entertainment or meetings where admission is charged or contributions solicited and net receipts are not to be expended for charitable purposes or for the welfare of the district's students. (Education Code 38134)

### **Expending Funds Collected as Capital Direct Costs**

\*\*\*Note: Pursuant to 5 CCR 14042, added by Register 2014, No. 19, funds collected as capital direct costs must be expended as specified in the following optional paragraph. \*\*\*

Any funds collected as capital direct costs shall be deposited into a special fund to be used only for capital maintenance, repair, restoration, and refurbishment of school facilities and grounds. (5 CCR 14042)

Legal Reference:  
EDUCATION CODE  
10900-10914.5 Community recreation programs  
32282 School safety plan

37220 School holidays  
38130-38138 Civic Center Act, use of school property for public purposes  
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE  
25608 Alcoholic beverage on school premises  
GOVERNMENT CODE  
54950-54963 The Ralph M. Brown Act  
MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE  
1800 Definitions  
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5  
14037-14042 Proportionate direct costs for use of school facilities and grounds  
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20  
7905 Equal access to public school facilities  
COURT DECISIONS  
Good News Club v. Milford Central School, (2001) 533 U.S. 98  
Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, (1993) 508 U.S. 384  
Cole v. Richardson, (1972) 405 U.S. 676  
Connell v. Higgenbotham, (1971) 403 U.S. 207  
ACLU v. Board of Education of Los Angeles, (1961) 55 Cal .2d 167  
Ellis v. Board of Education, (1945) 27 Cal.2d 322  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS  
82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 90 (1999)  
79 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 248 (1996)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity Through Joint Use of Facilities, Policy Brief, February 2010

Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

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**GRAVENSTEIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Sebastopol, California**