

# REGULATION

## ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: Policy KC

Responsible Office: CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

### COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES

#### A. PURPOSE

To establish and implement procedures and processes for the community use of Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) facilities.

#### B. BACKGROUND

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) recognizes that facilities paid for by the taxpayers of Anne Arundel County should be utilized to the fullest extent possible. The Board believes that the interests of the Anne Arundel County community merit the use of the AACPS facilities. Thus, the use of AACPS facilities for community purposes is encouraged by the Board and is in accordance with Maryland law.

#### C. PROCEDURES

##### 1. General Provisions

- a. AACPS facilities may only be used at times that shall not interfere with regular school hours and/or other school activities and programs.
- b. Nonprofit organizations may use AACPS facilities for educational, civic, social, religious, and recreational activities.
- c. Profit-making organizations shall be limited to using AACPS facilities for activities that are school-sponsored or school affiliated and provide a direct benefit to AACPS students or non-profit activities such as athletic programs, fund-raising activities for charitable purposes, and employee support activities.
- d. Any group or organization using school property shall indemnify and hold harmless the Board for any expenses, losses, damages, claims, lawsuits, or liabilities that are in any way caused by or result from their use of the school property.
- e. Community activities shall be assigned in accordance with the priority rankings indicated in the *Community Use of Facilities Manual*.
- f. The use of tobacco is prohibited on school system owned property. Tobacco means products derived from the tobacco plant that are smoked, chewed, sniffed or otherwise consumed, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars,

pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes or vapor pens, whether or not containing tobacco products.

- g. The sale, use, distribution, manufacture, possession, or dispensing of drugs, synthetic or mind altering substances or alcohol in any form is prohibited at all times (24 hours a day, every day) on school system owned property.

## 2. Use of AACPS Facilities for Religious Services

The Superintendent may approve up to the first five years of religious organization usage of an AACPS facility, and shall inform the Board of such approvals. Extensions for use of such facilities may be granted by the Superintendent under the rates scripted in the *Community Use Manual*.

## 3. Memorandum of Agreement with the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks (County)

- a. The Board of Education and the County agree to jointly schedule, reserve, operate, and supervise the use of the designated school facilities according to an approved Memorandum of Agreement.
- b. Representatives of the Board and the County shall review the *Community Use of Facilities Manual* and Memorandum of Agreement and update as needed

## 4. Exceptions

- a. The Superintendent or his/her designee may refuse and/or disapprove the use of any school facility for the purposes stated in the Maryland Education Article and the Code of Maryland Regulations.
- b. Any exception or special request not covered under these regulations shall be referred to the Superintendent's designee for a decision.
- c. Energy fees may be waived or reduced by the Superintendent or his/her designee for school-related support organizations, considered in consultation with representatives of those organizations.

## 5. Implementation

The Chief Operating Officer or his/her designee shall develop the procedural *Community Use of Facilities Manual* for the implementation of this Regulation.

**Regulation History:** Developed by the Superintendent: 02/04/15  
Reviewed by the Board: 03/18/15  
Issued: 03/18/15

**Note previous regulation history:** Combines and replaces the following regulations: Regulation AR 502, issued 12/01/76 and revised on 06/12/92; Regulation AR 502.03, issued 11/01/72 and revised 06/16/92; Regulation AR 502.06, issued 06/06/72, revised 06/16/92, 05/03/06 and 04/04/07.