

POLICY	BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
FACILITIES AND GROUNDS	POLICY 203
203.1 Use of School Facilities and Grounds 203.2 Limitations on Use 203.3 Charges for the Use of School Facilities 203.4 Events Held Off School Property 203.5 Exceptions 203.6 Implementing Regulation	

Purpose

The Board of Education (Board) encourages the use of its facilities by community user groups in accordance with its overall mission to serve the broader community and establishes parameters to govern such use as stated below.

Policy Statement

203.1 Use of School Facilities and Grounds

The Board recognizes that school system facilities are a valuable community asset and supports the public's use of system facilities and grounds when they are not being used for school purposes. Use of facilities and grounds by community user groups must comply with the law and not be contrary to the mission of the school system.

The Board encourages establishment of school community programs for nonprofit cultural, educational, and recreational purposes.

203.2 Limitations on Use

A. Gambling

Gambling and games of chance, such as bingo, where cash prizes or prizes of significant value are awarded are prohibited on school grounds. Raffles (a lottery in which each participant buys a ticket for an article put up as a prize with the winner being determined by a random drawing, only as authorized by law) and 50/50 drawings conducted by PTAs, alumni associations, and booster groups are permitted with approval of the principal. Students are prohibited from selling or distributing 50/50 or raffle tickets.

B. Frederick County Public Schools Facilities Restricted for Community Use

Because of the special purpose design of Rock Creek School, Career and Technology Center, Heather Ridge School, Earth Space and Science Lab, FCPS Staff Development Center in Walkersville, and future special purpose schools and the equipment located in those facilities, after-hour use of those facilities shall be

limited to school-related groups or community groups directly related to the facility. Related community groups using the Rock Creek School will include only groups comprised of or serving disabled persons. Those using the Career and Technology Center will include only Frederick Community College and organizations directly involved in the career education effort.

203.3 Charges for the Use of School Facilities

Any group or individuals using school facilities must pay an amount at least sufficient to cover the additional cost of such use to the school system. The Superintendent shall maintain a current schedule of fees, subject to approval by the Board.

The Board may approve exceptions for special facilities consistent with the mission of the school system.

203.4 Events Held Off School Property

The Board affirms its policy that school functions should be held on school property whenever possible. However, the Board authorizes school principals to make exceptions to the policy upon the request of a school group if the principal determines that the group will have proper adult chaperones and guidance.

203.5 Exceptions

The Chief Operating Officer may review and approve exceptions to this policy when responding to requests from community user groups in good standing which have had prior Board approval and provide notification to the Board accordingly.

203.6 Implementing Regulation

The Superintendent is directed to create an implementing regulation to execute the intent of this policy.

Legal Reference	§ 7-108, Education, <i>Annotated Code of Maryland</i>		
	§ 7-109, Education, <i>Annotated Code of Maryland</i>		
	§ 7-110, Education, <i>Annotated Code of Maryland</i>		
Source Document			
Policy History	Reviewed 2017	Adopted 11/12/03	Revised 1/10/18