
PROVISION OF CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance with respect to how the board will promote the use of Board property for the provision of childcare programs between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on business days by either the Board or third-party licensees.

The use of Board property by licensed childcare providers must not disrupt or otherwise interfere with the provision of educational activities including early learning programs and extracurricular school activities.

Definitions

In this Policy, the terms “board property,” “business day,” “childcare program,” “educational activities” and “licensee” have the meanings given to those terms in the *School Act*.

Direct and indirect costs shall be determined by the Superintendent, however, must include the following:

- Utilities.
- Maintenance and repair.
- A reasonable allowance for the cost of providing custodial services.
- A reasonable allowance for time School District Administrators and other staff spend on matters relating to the use of Board property by licensed childcare providers.

Specifically

1. The Chair in consultation with the Superintendent shall establish an advisory (fact finding/information gathering) sub-committee to assess the need for before and after school childcare programs, services, and delivery. The sub-committee shall make recommendations to the Committee of the Whole which shall make recommendations to the Board. The Superintendent shall solicit individuals/groups to appoint committee members and provide District resource staff required to facilitate the recommendations to the committee of the whole.

2. If childcare programs are to be provided on board property, the Board will consider, on an ongoing basis, whether those programs are best provided by licensees other than the Board, the Board, or a combination of both.
3. Childcare programs, if operated by the Board, will be operated for a fee no greater than the direct costs the Board incurs in providing the childcare program.
4. Fees for the use of Board property by licensees other than the Board will not exceed the direct and indirect costs the Board incurs in making board property available for the childcare program.
5. If childcare programs are operated by a licensee other than the Board, the Board will require the licensee to agree to comply with this policy.
6. In selecting licensees other than the Board to operate a childcare program, the Board will give special consideration to the candidates' proposals to:
 - 6.1. Provide inclusive childcare; and,
 - 6.2. Foster Indigenous reconciliation in childcare.
7. If the Board decides to operate a childcare program, the Board will ensure that it is operated in a manner that:
 - 7.1. Fosters Indigenous reconciliation in childcare. In particular, the childcare program will be operated consistently with the following principles of the *British Columbia Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*:
 - 7.1.1. "Indigenous Peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including in the area of education;" and
 - 7.1.2. "Indigenous Peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories, and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education."
 - 7.2. Is inclusive and consistent with the principles of non-discrimination set out in the British Columbia Human Rights Code.
8. Any contract with a licensee other than the Board, to provide a childcare program on Board property must be in writing and subject to review no less than every five years. The contract must contain:
 - 8.1. A description of the direct and indirect costs for which the licensee is responsible.

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- 8.2. An agreement by the licensee to comply with this policy and all other applicable policies.
 - 8.3. A provision describing how the agreement can be terminated by the Board or the licensee.
 - 8.4. An allocation of responsibility to ensure adequate insurance is in place to protect the interests of the Board.
 - 8.5. A statement that the agreement can only be amended in writing, signed by the Board and the licensee.
 - 8.6. A requirement for the licensee to maintain appropriate standards of performance.
 - 8.7. A requirement that the licensee must always maintain the required license to operate a childcare facility.
9. Prior to entering or renewing a contract with a licensee other than the Board to provide a childcare program on Board property, the Board will consider:
- 9.1. Whether it is preferable for the Board to become a licensee and operate a childcare program directly.
 - 9.2. The availability of School District staff to provide childcare.
 - 9.3. Whether, with respect to a licensee seeking renewal or extension of a contract, the licensee has performed its obligations under this Policy and its contract with the Board, with specific regard to performance in respect of providing an inclusive childcare program and one that promotes Indigenous Reconciliation in childcare.

Legal References: *British Columbia Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*
 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
 School Act Sections 85.1, 85.2, 85.3, 85.4
 Ministerial Order M326, the Child Care Order
 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act
 British Columbia Human Rights Code.

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