



DRAFT POLICY – CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

The Board of Education, as per School Act section 85.1 promotes licensed childcare providers the use of Board property, ensuring that the usage does not disrupt or otherwise interfere with the provision of educational activities and that revenue obtained is not more than the direct and indirect costs incurred by the Board as a result of making that use available. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance with respect to how the Board will support 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.

PROCESS

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” include:

- a) Utilities;
- b) Maintenance and repair;
- c) A reasonable allowance for the cost of providing custodial services;
- d) 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.

Guiding Principles

The Board will, on an ongoing basis, assess community need for childcare programs on Board property, through a process of engagement with employee groups, parents and guardians, Indigenous community representatives, Indigenous rightsholders, Indigenous service providers, and existing childcare operators. The process for engagement will be reviewed on an ongoing basis

If the Board decides to operate a childcare program, the Board will ensure that it is operated in a manner that:

- a) fosters Indigenous reconciliation in childcare
- b) is inclusive and consistent with the principles of non-discrimination set out in the British Columbia Human Rights Code.

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.

In selecting licensees other than the Board to operate a childcare program, the Board will give special consideration to the candidates' proposals to:

- a) provide inclusive child care; and,
- b) foster Indigenous reconciliation in childcare.

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 year. The contract must contain:

- a) a description of the direct and indirect costs for which the licensee is responsible;
- b) an agreement by the licensee to comply with this policy and all other applicable policies/administrative procedures;
- c) a provision describing how the agreement can be terminated by the Board or the licensee;
- d) adequate insurance is in place to protect the interests of the Board
- e) a statement that the agreement can only be amended in writing, signed by the Board and the licensee;
- f) a requirement for the licensee to maintain appropriate standards of performance; and
- g) a requirement that the licensee must at all times maintain the required license to operate a childcare facility

Prior to entering into or renewing a contract with a licensee other than the Board to provide a childcare program on Board property, the Board will consider:

- a) whether it is preferable for the Board to become a licensee and operate a childcare program directly;
- b) the availability of School District staff to provide before and after school care;
- c) whether, with respect to 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;
- d) the utilization of the [British Columbia Early Learning Framework](#) to guide and support learning experiences in childcare settings.