



Open School Facilities, Playgrounds on Nights and Weekends

Board Requested Agenda Item

February 1, 2022

SCHOOL FACILITIES

- Currently school gates are closed after hours and weekends
- They are opened for access during special events, and for outside user groups
- Schools are currently staffed for custodial per the following schedule:
 - Elementary – until 9 p.m.
 - Middle – until 9:30 p.m.
 - High School – until 11:00 p.m.
- No coverage on the weekends unless there are activities going on, or outside user groups rent the facilities
- Principals and operations staff were surveyed for pros and cons

PROS & CONS

Pros

- Access for additional play time
- Access for potential family time
- Encouraging the idea that these are community schools

Cons

- Trash and subsequent trash pickup early mornings before kids get to school
- Conflict with childcare, afterschool classes and school events on campus
- Vandalism and potential damage (may be difficult to investigate cause)
- Responsibility and cost of opening and locking gates on the weekend
- Unsupervised activities and no security
- Liability
- Impact on neighbors of unmonitored activities on the campus
- Alcohol and tobacco products already found on campus at times
- May deter teachers from coming to campus on a weekend to work/prepare, or just not wanting to stay after school
- Pets on campus – dogs off leash and dog waste
- Inappropriate or illegal items left behind to be discovered by elementary students
- Student and staff outdoor projects are exposed
- Families may ask us to deal with issues between students or families that could arise
- Skateboards
- May require installation of additional fencing
- More wear and tear on playground equipment

Discussion