

## **Safety, Operations and Maintenance of School Property**

### **A. Facilities Maintenance**

The superintendent or designee will provide for a program to maintain the district physical plant and grounds by way of a continuous program of repair, maintenance and reconditioning. Budget recommendations will be made each year to meet these needs and any such needs arising from an emergency.

### **B. Infrastructure Management**

The Washougal Board of Directors also desires to maintain the infrastructure of district facilities.

In order to assure state funding, for facilities constructed new or new in lieu after 1994, the board will adopt an asset preservation program (APP). The APP will preserve the district facilities by employing a system of predictive, preventative, and proactive processes. Annually, the superintendent will report to the board on the condition of the facilities and the effectiveness of the APP. Every sixth year an independent assessment will be conducted and reported to the board and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Additionally, the superintendent or designee will develop a process to evaluate all pre-1994 facilities for possible participation in the asset preservation program.

For initial participation in the APP, the board will submit a resolution to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction committing the district to implement the program.

The superintendent or designee will develop procedures for the asset preservation program.

### **C. Playground Equipment**

The board recognizes that playground equipment is an essential part of a complete school facility. All playground equipment, whether purchased by the district or donated by a community or school-related group, should be assessed in terms of suitability and durability and for possible health or safety hazards. Consideration will also be given to potential hazards when the playground is unsupervised during non-school hours.

The superintendent will develop specifications for playground equipment and related play surfaces. These specifications shall serve as criteria for the selection of playground equipment. Selection and installation of playground equipment will be based upon safety and contribution to child development.

### **D. Chemical and Laboratory Safety**

The board recognizes the potential health and safety hazards that exist as a result of chemical storage and handling. Instruction will be emphasized in the safe and proper use of chemicals and substances and proper laboratory techniques. All students and staff are to wear safety glasses or goggles whenever they are working under potentially hazardous conditions. Laboratories should be ventilated sufficiently enough to provide a healthful, nonhazardous environment.

The superintendent or designee is directed to establish safety guidelines and procedures which will minimize the hazards inherent in the science classes and laboratories in the schools.

### **Destruction of School Property**

Staff will ensure that buildings, grounds, equipment and furniture are not abused. Students or non-students who abuse school property may be disciplined and required to pay for the damage incurred.

The superintendent or designee will establish procedures for the investigation and reporting of damage or loss and will initiate action to collect for damages. A student's diploma may be withheld until restitution is made.

### **Legal References:**

- RCW 28A.335.300 Playground matting
- RCW 28A.635.060 Defacing or injuring school property - Liability of pupil, parent, or guardian - Withholding grades, diploma, or transcripts - Suspension and restitution - Voluntary work program as alternative - Rights protected
- WAC 392-347-023 State assistance in post 1993 facilities

### **Management Resources:**

- 2021 - June Issue
- 2011 - October Issue
- 2009 - June Issue

### **Cross References:**

- 6605 - Student Safety Walking to School and Riding Buses
- 6511 - Staff Safety
- 3520 - Student Fees, Fines, or Charges
- 2151 - Interscholastic Activities

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Washougal School District  
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## Procedure - Safety, Operations and Maintenance of School Property

### Playground Equipment

Plans to install playground equipment, either temporarily or permanently at a school site, will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the school principal and other appropriate staff members. A representative from the current insurance carrier will be contacted prior to installation.

#### Guidelines:

- A. Equipment must meet the safety criteria listed below:
  - 1. All playground equipment must have an immediate ground surface which limits the impact from a fall, according to ASTM F-355-72. The safety surface must extend to the maximum distance to which a fall could occur;
  - 2. Equipment is to be placed so as to take advantage of topography of surrounding terrain and far enough apart so that there will be a dispersion of children allowing safe, free movement with the least possible congestion;
  - 3. All equipment is to be free from hazardous protrusions, points and sharp edges.
  - 4. Exposed component materials are to be rust-free, clean and durable to use and weather with a minimum amount of splintering, flaking or other deterioration. Lead paint and creosote will not be used;
  - 5. Equipment that is low to the ground and with a six (6) foot maximum vertical limit is preferred;
  - 6. All moving parts are to be concealed and be designed to minimize the chances of pinching or catching of clothing or of body; and
  - 7. All equipment must be securely anchored according to manufacturer's recommendations and installed by the manufacturer or his/her authorized representative.
- B. Equipment should require a minimum of maintenance, specifically for replacement of parts and painting;
- C. Equipment should be aesthetically appealing, and encourage active and creative use;
- D. Equipment should be difficult to vandalize; and
- E. Unpadded cement or steel stationary poles should not be in areas intended for running games.

The maintenance supervisor will coordinate installation of approved equipment with the school principal. Quarterly inspections will be conducted.

**Washougal School District**  
**Date: 03.25.14**