# 707.1. COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS AND PLAYGROUNDS

## 1. Purpose

As a service to the community and in accordance with laws, the Spring-Ford Area School District will allow the use of public school grounds, fields and playgrounds by individuals for recreational purposes (subject to availability).

## 2. Authority

No use of school grounds and playgrounds is permitted during the hours school is in session or when a use of facilities permit has been issued for a specific area, field or campus. Appropriate signage will be placed at each school.

In general, permission to use the general school grounds and playgrounds for individual use is permitted when such use will not interfere in any way with the regular extra-curricular programs and activities of the school or facility and/or if it conflicts with a school district issued permit to use the facility. Permission to request a permit to the use of school grounds, fields and buildings for individual and association, group and organizational use is described in Policy 707 – Use of Facilities.

## 3. Guidelines

### Rules For Grounds and Playground Use

1. Maintain proper conduct. The use of obscene language is not permitted.

2. Users of the grounds or playgrounds will respect the personal property of others.

3. Users of the grounds or playgrounds will refrain from causing intentional harm as well as conduct that would alter, damage or be injurious to any district property, equipment or furnishings. The use of the facilities will not be permitted during inclement weather or following inclement weather that would damage grass fields and field playing surfaces.

4. Use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, tobacco or alcohol is strictly forbidden as well as the possession of weapons.

5. No skateboards, motorized recreational vehicles, three-wheel and four-wheel all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, and snowmobiles are allowed.
6. Roller skating, roller blading and bike riding are permitted on paved areas only, not on tennis courts or the track or where otherwise prohibited by appropriate signage.

7. No pets are permitted on school district property (all campuses) including all buildings, playing fields, playgrounds, stadiums and walking pathways.

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are strictly prohibited in school facilities and on school district property.

1. Possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and/or alcoholic beverages.
2. Possession of weapons.
3. Conduct that would alter, damage or be injurious to any district property, equipment, or furnishings.
4. Conduct that would constitute a violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, and/or state and federal laws and regulations.
5. Use of Tobacco products.

Violations

The district reserves the right to remove from district premises any individual or organization, who fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this policy.

In the event an individual or organization violates this policy or the terms under which permission was granted to use school facilities, that individual or organization forfeits the right to the use of the school grounds and playgrounds and forfeits the right to submit future written requests to use district property, unless otherwise decided by the board. Such actions shall be considered as trespassing on school property and may subject the offender to criminal prosecution.

4. Delegation of Responsibility

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to control the conduct of their children on school grounds and playgrounds.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 775