



Revelstoke Board of Education

Policy Manual

4.21 Child Care

The Revelstoke Board of Education supports the use of board property for the provision of child care programs before, during and after school.

The Board values the relationships with early learning and child care providers and recognizes their role in providing quality child care in the community.

Guidelines

1. The Board will engage with employee groups, parents and guardians, Indigenous community representatives, rightsholders, and service providers, and existing child care operators when feasible to assess the need for child care programs on board property.
2. The use of board property by licensed child care providers will not negatively impact educational activities, early learning programs or extracurricular school activities.
3. When child care 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.
4. Board run child care programs will be operated for a fee no greater than the direct costs the Board incurs in providing the child care program.
5. 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 child care program.
6. In selecting licensees to operate a child care program, the Board will give special consideration to the candidates' proposals that: (a) provide inclusive child care; and, (b) foster Indigenous reconciliation in child care.
7. Board operated child care programs will be operated in a manner that:
 - a) fosters Indigenous reconciliation in child care. In particular, the child care program will be operated consistently with the following principles of the British Columbia *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*:

- (i) Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including in the area of education; and
 - (ii) “Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education”; and
 - b) is inclusive and consistent with the principles of non-discrimination set out in the British Columbia *Human Rights Code*.
8. Contracts with licensees to provide a child care program on board property will be in writing and subject to review. The contract will 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, labour agreements, and all other applicable policies;
 - c) a provision describing how the agreement can be terminated by the board or the licensee;
 - d) an allocation of responsibility to ensure 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 child care facility.
9. Prior to entering into or renewing a contract with a licensee other than the board to provide a child care program on board property, the board will consider:
- a) Whether it is preferable for the board to become a licensee and operate a child care program directly;
 - b) the availability of school district staff to provide before and after school care;
 - c) 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 child care program and one that promotes indigenous reconciliation in child care.

Definitions

In this Policy, the terms “**board property**,” “**business day**,” “**child care 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 matters relating to the use of board property by licensed child care providers.