

Policy Code: 5005 Community Schools Program

The board supports the principles of the Community Schools Act by encouraging greater community involvement in school activities and increased utilization of school facilities. The board recognizes learning as a lifelong process and encourages the participation of all citizens and organizations in the development of a community education program. The community schools concept provides an excellent framework to enhance educational, social, cultural, recreational and enrichment programs for meeting individual and community needs.

In support of the community schools program, the board encourages the use of designated school facilities for planned, organized activities that benefit the community and that are compatible with the educational program of the schools system and with public school laws and regulations of the state or federal government.

Community residents and agencies may provide input through a community schools advisory council, composed of citizens, parents and students, when possible, and an interagency advisory committee, composed of representatives from various community agencies. The board will appoint a community schools coordinator who will be responsible for providing support for the community schools and interagency advisory committees, maximizing the use of community volunteers in the schools and promoting and directing maximum use of the public schools and public school facilities as centers for community development.

AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

The Community Schools Programs of after-school care, after school and summer enrichment and adult education are extensions of the school day and part of the educational program of the school district.

The provision of quality after-school care can affect the health and safety of the children who attend and positively impact the education of students. Principals, in conjunction with School Governance Committees, are expected to make space provisions to accommodate all students who apply for after-school care. In planning new facilities, the board should request funds from the County Commissioners to provide office space for classroom teachers and additional storage in each classroom, primarily for the use of the after-school program. In order to serve eligible children requesting after-school services, it is expected that classroom space will be used. Schools where these additional provisions have been incorporated into the facility should have no waiting list for after-school services due to the lack of space.

Legal References: [G.S. 115C art. 13](#)

Cross References: School Volunteers (policy 5015), Screening of School Volunteers (policy 5016), Community Use of Facilities (policy 5030)

Adopted: 5/6/99

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools