

USE OF FACILITIES AND GROUNDS FOR K – 12: USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR GARDEN PLOTS

Background

The District supports in principle the establishment of locally-initiated garden plots on school grounds. These garden projects may be established in the interests of providing an educational opportunity for the students and staff, and a focus of community activity.

The development and maintenance of these projects shall be at no cost to the District.

Procedures

To ensure the maximum benefits to the students and the local community, the garden plots are to be designed in accordance with the following procedures.

1. The garden plots are to be designed to add to the aesthetic value of the school site. The projects are not to be allowed to displace other important and appropriate functional uses of the grounds nor are they to be allowed to create any type of perceived or real nuisance to the nearby residents.
2. The plan size of the garden is to have a maximum area of 9.3m² (100 sq. ft.) and sections with dimensions of approximately 3 metres square (10 feet by 10 feet). Larger areas may only be considered under exceptional circumstances.
3. The proposed site must be approved by the Director of Facilities, and by the school staff, and nearby residents.
4. The District will assume no liability or responsibility for the development or on-going operation of the garden.
5. The garden plot must be fenced to a specified type and height, notably a chain link fence with a locking gate. The height of the fence will be a minimum of 1.2 m (4 ft.) and a maximum of 1.82 m (6 ft.).
6. The arrangements for provision of water service to the garden is the responsibility of the school. The District will not maintain or provide water service to the garden.
7. All site preparation, fencing and other costs incurred by the District, as requested, will be reimbursed by the school.
8. All materials, including soil, compost, etc., will be kept within the enclosed garden area.
9. No restricted substances are to be kept, used or brought onto the grounds. Only permitted insecticides or pesticides are to be used in accordance with Board policies, administrative

procedures and City By-Law requirements and, then, only by licensed applicators and with permission from the District.

10. The overall condition and appearance of the garden must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Grounds Supervisor. The Principal must ensure there is assigned responsibility for maintaining the garden throughout the year, including the summer break.
11. The Principal will be the primary contact person for any directions or communications from the District staff. This would include any changes to the garden, annual clean-up activities, and expansion or reclamation.
12. The decision to remove or reclaim the garden plot will be made by the Principal in consultation with the staff and PAC. Costs for restoration will be the responsibility of the school.
13. Approval prior for the installation or removal of any garden plot must be obtained from the Director of Facilities after review by the Superintendent.

Reference: Sections 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

Adopted: November 4, 1996
Revised: September 24, 2018