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Brian Dzbenski, Athletic Director    electronic mail: [BrianDzbenski@princetonk12.org](mailto:BrianDzbenski@princetonk12.org)  
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Dear Brian:

As described in an email message of July 25, 2019, I am following through on a suggestion raised at the facilities committee meeting of July 22, 2019, requesting your recommendation regarding use of track and field equipment by outside groups.

I hope we can meet to discuss the following information in order to help formulate that recommendation.

We can distill everything to a few essentials.

1. Princeton Public Schools can examine that Princeton Athletic Club has appropriate insurance covering its use of the track and field equipment, just as Princeton Public Schools verifies the liability insurance coverage for every organization using its facilities.
2. The necessary accommodation requested involves insuring access to certain gates and areas integrated into the stadium seating.
3. No deliberate action should be done to frustrate the objective of the facility use.

The community support letter from last spring describes the objective at a high level. The community support letter is attached.

The goal is to use the track and field facility at Princeton High School to conduct community track and field meets, offering the broadest range of events, open to the widest range of ages and abilities, as practicable to do in a safe, fun, fair manner.

This includes all the running events, as well as all of the other components of track and field: hurdles, throws, including discus and javelin, and jumps, including high jump, and, at some time, pole vault. Putting the full program together may be a project that extends over some time.

Use of track and field equipment at zero fee additional to basic rental of the fields is instrumental to this goal and also reasonable based on Princeton Public Schools policy, Princeton Public Schools practice and the practice of other districts in New Jersey. Specifically, New Jersey Striders conducts such meets on these terms at Westwood Regional High School and Vertical Adventures conducts a decathlon at Lenape High School in Medford.

This overall objective is made more precise in a proposed regulation, also attached. That proposed regulation details the constituents of the track and field equipment, evidence of how it is situated at Princeton High School, and documentation for other particulars such as specialist insurance coverage and the brief case study of the community track and field event at Lenape High School.

The facilities committee raised some specific concerns. The key concept was that PPS equipment must be conserved for its paramount purpose, to serve PPS programs that educate the youth of Princeton. The answers to these concerns are attached in the style of “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ).

How will the risk of damage to equipment be addressed?

What about ordinary wear of the equipment?

Is there a limiting principle? Other organizations might want to use other equipment. (One committee member asked, if PPS can be called on to provide four tables, why not 30 tables?)

What staff or administrative time will be required in order to make the equipment available?

There was also inquiry as to whether the facility and equipment accommodates all ages of participant.

I should reiterate that I make special provision for the participation of children in the sport of track and field. For example, my organization provides shot puts at the specified weights for every youth age group, so that any child participant who wishes to throw has an appropriate implement to throw. Adults are expected to bring their own implements.

By the nature of human physiology, field events are mainly young person's activities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lawren Smithline