



PROCEDURE

FT116

Building Security and Access

Board Received: November 28, 2016

Review Date: December 2020

Accountability:

1. Frequency of Reports – As needed
2. Criteria for Success – Elimination of lost electronic access keys
– Board buildings are properly secured by community users and by staff working after hours

Procedures:

1.0 Access to Board Buildings

1.1 Distribution of Electronic Access Cards

- a) The Board shall provide an electronic access/photo ID card and, if applicable, a security access code at no cost to:
 - i) trustees, principals, teachers, head secretaries and other school staff as approved by the principal/building manager; administrative staff
- b) Upon approval by senior administration and the completion of Appendix A including a refundable deposit of \$20.00, the Board may elect to provide an electronic access card and, if applicable, a security access code to:
 - i) approved community users who have obtained permits through the Board's policy FT4 – Use of School Facilities
- c) With the completion of Appendix B plus a refundable deposit of up to \$50.00, the Board shall provide electronic access /**photo ID** card and, if applicable, a security access code to Board contractors as approved by the Manager or Divisional Managers of Facility Services.

Facility Services will keep records of all users and access codes.

1.2 Distribution of Master Keys

- a) Master Access Key – Site Specific (metal) – distributed to the Principal, Vice-Principal and Head Custodial staff for each building
- b) Master Access Key – System (metal) – distributed to Director of Education, Supervisory Officers, Manager of Facility Services, maintenance supervisory personnel and the Fire Department in each of the municipalities.
- c) Master Access/photo ID Cards – System (electronic) – distributed to Director of Education, Supervisory Officers, Manager of Facility Services, Divisional Managers of Facility Services, Facility Supervisory staff – Custodial and Maintenance, other Maintenance and Information Technology staff assigned to system duties.

2.0 Access Doors**2.1 Electronic Access Doors**

Each school is equipped with at least one electronic access door; school administrators will be permitted to have a second electronic access door, only if physically feasible, and will be required to pay for it with school funds

2.2 Manual Lock Doors

Each school is equipped with one exterior door only which can be opened with a metal key in the case of emergency

3.0 After-Hours Access**3.1 Disarming and Arming the Security System**

3.1.1 All staff, permit holders and contractors must be aware of and determine the status of the security system upon entering and before leaving Board buildings. The first person in the building after 6:00 am on a school day or anytime on non-school days must disarm the security system using the code assigned to him/her when the electronic access card was issued

3.1.2 The last person to exit the building must rearm the security system using the code assigned to him/her when the electronic access card was issued

3.1.3 Staff who anticipate working past 11:30 p.m. may request an extension to the alarm setting by contacting Facility Services before the end of the business day; final determination is at the discretion of Manager of Facility Services

3.1.4 Staff are not permitted after hours access for personal use and are not to permit entry to family members and friends; all personal use of Board facilities is to be via a Board permit issued by rentals services.

3.2 Security Provider Charges

The security system automatically checks during the evening and night to ensure the building is armed; if the signal indicates an unarmed building, it will be auto-armed and security personnel are dispatched to investigate to ensure that there are no persons in distress in the building. The Board sustains a cost each time the security provider is required to attend the site to check the building or arm the system in the event it was not armed by the last person to leave the building

a) permit holders will be billed directly for the cost incurred

b) school accounts will be charged for staff infractions

c) habitual negligence to arm the building will result in termination of access rights

4.0 Damaged Keys and Lost Keys

Electronic access card, electronic access/photo ID card, master access key (metal), Master access card (electronic) are the property of the Grand Erie District School Board and are not to be tampered with, defaced, damaged or exposed to theft or loss. Do not write your access code on the electronic card or leave it where it can be found.

4.1 Damaged Electronic Access Cards

a) cards damaged from normal wear and tear will be replaced at no charge to staff

b) cards exposed to excessive or chronic damage, will result in a replacement charge to staff

c) cards wilfully damaged will result in a replacement charge to the staff member or permit holder

4.2 Lost Electronic Access Cards

Staff members and permit holders are required to notify Facility Services as soon as they realize their Electronic Access Card is missing

4.3 Lost Master Access Keys

- a) Staff who are assigned Master Access Key Cards are required to notify Facility Services in the event that their Keys are missing. Serious consequences can result from this loss and Board facilities must be secured against loss or damage
- b) Replacement keys (electronic or metal) will be reissued one time only at a replacement charge of \$50.00; further loss will result in termination of access

4.4 Damages and Theft to Board Buildings and Property

Electronic access is tracked by the Board's security provider and damage to or theft from Board buildings which occurs during access by a staff member or permit holder, may be billed to that person(s).

4.5 Replacement Fees

- a) Electronic Access Card – damaged
 - no charge first time
 - chronic damage will result in damage replacement charge of \$15.00
 - chronic damage may result in termination of access rights
- b) Electronic Access Card – damaged (wilfully)
 - \$15.00 first time
 - termination of access rights for subsequent damage
- c) Electronic Access/photo ID Card – lost by staff
 - \$15.00 first loss
 - incremental increases of \$5.00 for each successive loss
 - frequent loss of electronic access cards may result in termination of access.
- d) Electronic Access Card – lost by permit holder or contractor.
 - loss of \$20.00 deposit
 - frequent loss of electronic access cards will result in termination of access
- e) Master Access Card (electronic) – lost
 - \$50.00; more than once will result in termination of access
- f) Master Access Key (metal) – lost
 - \$50.00; more than once will result in termination of access
- g) Failure of staff to surrender electronic access/photo ID cards, master access key cards when required will result in a \$15.00 fee levied to the staff member or charged to the school account (\$50.00 for Master Key Cards)
- h) Electronic Access Cards issued to Contractors are to be returned immediately upon completion of the assigned work. Should access devices not be returned as required, electronic access will be disabled and the appropriate fee as set out in (g) above may be assessed and deducted from the contractor's final invoice at the direction of the Manager of Facility Services.

5.0 **Deactivation of Electronic Access Keys may occur due to the following reasons**

- a) School Principal may choose to limit access to the building
- b) During major projects which may involve, e.g., asbestos removal, stripping & waxing floors
- c) Security and operational concerns, including loss of key, card, code
- d) Summer Use by Partners - The use of school facilities for municipal partners shall be granted where possible. Great effort will be given in planning summer operations and maintenance activities. Facility services will continue to work or relocate the permit to a suitable similar location.

Municipal partners are encouraged to submit their choice of rental dates by no later than May 15 of each year in order that we can coordinate maintenance and operations activities.

- e) Summer Access for Staff - Educational Staff are given restricted summer access to schools. Their electronic keys are deactivated during this period. Summer access for Educational Staff will be limited to a two-week period consisting of the first week of July and the last one week of August in order to provide time for facilities staff to properly clean and maintain school buildings. In the event that educational staff require entry that can only be scheduled during the period of restricted access, staff must arrange for access through their principal (if available) or by contacting the Division Manager of Operations and Health and Safety or by calling facility services help desk at 281282 with at least 24 hours advance notice. When access is approved we will arrange for a facility team member to meet the staff member at the school for entry at a prearranged time and at the front door. Special consideration can also be given for teacher training that would require access during the restricted period. The request must first be approved by the Family of Schools Superintendent in consultation with the Manager of Facilities or Division Manager of Operations & Health and Safety.

The school administrator shall be solely responsible for staff entering the school building during this time period. Any costs incurred by the Board for responding to secure school buildings after work hours will be billed back to the school.

6.0 Surrendering Electronic Access Cards

- 6.1 All Electronic Access Keys Cards, Photo ID Cards and access codes are required to be returned under the following conditions:
- a) Staff who retire, resign or have their employment terminated are required to surrender the electronic access card and access code to their site supervisor who will return them to Facility Services. Access codes are not to be reassigned to new staff by the site supervisor.
 - b) Permit holders and contractors whose allotted time has expired are to surrender Electronic Access Keys Cards and access codes to:

Facility Services Secretary
Facility Services Building / 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford /
519-756-6301 or Toll Free 1-888-548-8878

- 6.2 Failure to surrender electronic access cards when required will result in a \$15.00 fee charge to staff members (\$50.00 for Master Key Cards), or relinquishment of the \$20.00 refundable deposit for permit holders.

7.0 Additional Information

- 7.1 Errors in Arming and Disarming or to report lost access cards or master keys, contact Facility Services at 519-756-6301 (after hours follow the instructions for reporting building related emergencies) or Toll Free 1-888-548-8878.
- 7.2 Staff Changing Locations/ Extended Absence from Work
The electronic access card and security code remain with you during your employment with the Grand Erie District School Board.
- a) Changing Locations

If you are transferring to another location, please have your site supervisor provide all pertinent information to Facility Services at least two (2) weeks before your new assignment begins.

b) Medical, Parental or Other Leave of Absence

If you will be away from your job for a period longer than three (3) weeks, your site supervisor must inform Facility Services to temporarily deactivate your electronic access card and to issue a new card and access to the temporary staff person.

7.3 Precedence of Facility Custodial Services and Maintenance

All board procedures to maintain the cleanliness, safety and efficient operation of facilities will have precedence over staff or community access to buildings.