

CAN OUR SCHOOL RENT A PORTABLE INFLATABLE AMUSEMENT DEVICE?



Portable inflatable amusement devices ('inflatables') such as bouncy castles, slides or climbing walls are popular requests for school events such as Spring and Fall Fairs, Dry Grad parties and other extra-curricular events and activities.

While inflatables may seem like a fun addition, they have been associated with many serious injuries, and pose a number of risks to both participants and bystanders not only due to falls but also:

1. Failure to adequately secure the device, allowing it to blow over or blow away
2. Sudden deflation with associated risk of suffocation for participants trapped inside
3. Incorrect set up on hard surfaces such as concrete or pavement
4. Improper operation: too many children, big and small children mixed together, rough housing, failure to supervise

BEFORE ENTERING A RENTAL AGREEMENT, EVERY SCHOOL IN OUR DISTRICT MUST ENSURE THE INFLATABLE MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Is the inflatable accessible for all students at the school?

Schools and PACs must ensure that the inflatable is accessible for students in a wheelchair or those with a physical disability. This means that any inflatable where the participant must be on top of the inflated surface (e.g. bouncers, slides) would not be acceptable.

Does the inflatable require participants to be on top or inside of the inflatable?

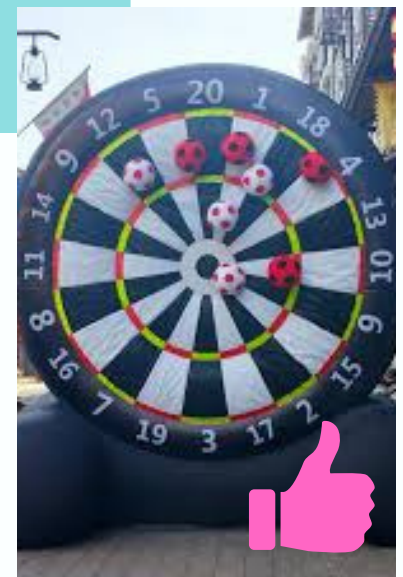
Do not use any inflatable that requires being on top of an inflated surface or inside of an inflated structure.

Has the rental agreement or contract been reviewed and signed by the school principal?

The rental agreement or contract must be reviewed by the district's Purchasing department and signed by the school principal. The contract must indemnify the school district for all claims arising from the service provider's negligence, acts or omissions in the delivery of the services. This indemnity should be supported by a requirement for the service provider to carry Commercial General Liability (minimum \$5 million limit) with the district named as an Additional Insured.

Are all participants using the equipment as designed?

Volunteers operating any rentals must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and should be trained on the safe operation of the inflatable by the vendor. Two adults must supervise each inflatable in operation. All contracts for inflatable rentals should specify vendor delivery, set-up, and training of volunteers.



Thank you for your efforts to ensure the safety of our students, staff, volunteers and school communities in planning and hosting school events. If you have any questions or require more information, please contact your school principal.