

501 - STUDENT FEES

Background

While recognizing that basic education should, for the most part be free and available to all, the **School Act** (Sec. 60(2)j) allows Schools Boards to establish fees with respect to instructional supplies and materials. For equity purposes, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish mandatory school fees at each grade level, set the amount of mandatory fees. The Board further believes the school, in consultation with the school council, can best determine other fees that may be required for the educational experiences of students.

All fees charged to students/parents must be properly accounted for using appropriate accounting procedures as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer or designate.

Regulations

I. Mandatory Fees

Mandatory fees are levied by the jurisdiction to assist schools in covering a portion of the costs associated with:

- Locker upkeep and locks
- Workbooks
- Textbook replacement and renewal
- Co-curricular field trips
- Use of community facilities
- Visiting performers, exhibitions, and guest speakers.

Mandatory fees are set at:

- \$ 40 for students in grades 1 – 6 and ECS
- \$ 70 for students in grades 7 – 9
- \$ 100 for students in grades 10 – 12

The revenue generated by mandatory fees must be reported in the School Budget. The monies collected must be forwarded to division office for inclusion in the school budget.

The Superintendent will review mandatory fees annually.

2. Supplementary Fees

Supplementary fees may be levied by schools in consultation with the School Council for CTS courses, complementary courses (junior high/middle school), Marine Biology, Outdoor Education, Physical Education 20/30 on a cost-recovery basis for materials and other related costs. The revenue and costs of these courses will be reported in the School Generated Fund report and form the information base for setting of these individual fees.

3. Voluntary Fees

Voluntary fees will be levied on participating users to recover the costs for activities or products such as:

- yearbooks
- school photos
- extra curricular activities
- special class trips
- instrument rental
- student union fees
- distance learning caution fees (refundable) for students electing to take these courses when they are offered in the school

4. Collection of Fees

The collection of mandatory fees and other fees levied by the school is the responsibility of the school.

5. Relaxation of Fees

Students will not be denied access to, or credit for a program or activity solely on the basis of a genuine inability to pay.

6. Parental Involvement

The outline of all school fees for the next school year must be discussed at an advertised school council meeting through the school newsletter, memo to parents, or by newspaper advertisement.

7. Notification of School Fees

All parents must be notified of the mandatory school fees as established by June 1 for the following school year.

The notification of fees will be published by Division Office.

An advertisement will be placed in all community newspapers for mandatory fees no later than June 01 for the following school year.

Supplementary Fees and Voluntary Fees for each school will be published in the Wild Rose School Division Parent Handbook which will be distributed each year with the final report card.

Reference: Section 60, School Act
Revised: April 24, 2006