

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

TITLE: STUDENT FEES

CATEGORY: FINANCE

NUMBER: 5080

CIRCULATING UNTIL AUGUST 21, 2024

I. Rationale:

Education programs are provided free of charge to every student of school age resident on the Sunshine Coast. Some elective programs may benefit from additional parent support.

II. Student fees:

A. Examples of fees that may be charged include, but are not limited to:

1. Materials used in goods that are intended for the student to take home or for personal use, or as a gift;
2. The rental of musical instruments for the student's personal use;
3. Expenses associated with field trips, sports teams or other special events, such as transportation, tournament fees, accommodation, meals, entrance fees and equipment rental;
4. Entrance fees for graduation activities;
5. Tuition and related fees for non-resident students;
6. Tuition and related fees for students who have already met the general requirements for graduation.

III. Supporting Universal Participation:

A. Per Policy 28 – Anti-poverty, the Sunshine Coast Board of Education commits to ensuring that barriers to education are recognized and addressed in all of our schools. As such, schools must provide a process for students and parents to have fees waived because of inability to pay or family economic circumstances, with the exception of non-resident students and students who have already met the general requirements for graduation.

B. Parents unable to pay some or all of a school fee are invited to speak to their child's teacher, school counsellor, and/or the Principal.

C. The process must incorporate the principles of fairness, confidentiality, and sensitivity, while maintaining family respect and dignity.

D. All financial hardship requests and/or discussions shall be confidential, with the goal of facilitating the student's participation.

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E. Considerations related to Field Trips are addressed in Regulation 1130 – Extended Experiences.

F. The District’s financial hardship procedure shall be published in each school’s schedule of fees, included on excursion and activity permission forms, referred to in school newsletters, published on school websites, included in application forms for educational programs requiring payment of fees or for which students are required to provide their own special equipment, and teachers and administrators shall be alert to such cases.

Received:

References: Board of Education Fees M236/07, *School Act (S.82)*