



Northeastern Catholic District School Board

STUDENT FEES

Policy Number: B-17

Authority: 11/187/17-84

POLICY STATEMENT

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) is committed to providing its students with various opportunities to maximize their experiences in school. In the design and implementation of various programs and activities, the NCDSB strives to implement consistent and transparent practices that cultivate equity and inclusion. From time to time however, there are additional programming and materials required that extend beyond what is necessary to meet the learning expectations of a particular grade, course, or experience. Such opportunities may be subject to an additional fee.

REFERENCES

Ministry of Education, 2011: B02 *Guidelines for Fees for Learning Materials and Activities*

DEFINITIONS

Student Activity Fee

Voluntary amounts that are used to supplement a student's school experience.

POLICY REGULATIONS

- 1.0 Principals will use discretion in the establishment of fee amounts. A transparent accounting of the amounts collected and expenditures must be made available to the Catholic School Council and board staff upon request.
- 2.0 The Catholic School Council should be consulted in the development of a student fee.
- 3.0 It is understood that fees raised for school purposes are to complement, and not replace, public funding for education.
- 4.0 Students must be able to participate in school activities and access resources regardless of personal financial barriers.
- 5.0 The Ministry of Education has identified a list of examples of Activities, Programs or Materials **Ineligible** for Fee Charges which include but are not limited to:
 - A registration or administration fee for students enrolled in any regular day school program;
 - A textbook fee or deposit

- Learning materials that are required for completion of the curriculum such as workbooks, cahiers, musical instruments, science supplies, lab material kits and safety goggles;
- Fees charged for the creation of discretionary accounts by teachers or departments;
- Mandatory flat fees for any course leading to graduation other than optional programming;
- A fee for a guest speaker, visiting teacher, or in-class field trip or presentation where the material being presented is a mandatory element of the subject or course;
- Items that are funded through the allocated budget of a school board including, but not limited to learning materials necessary to meet learning expectations such as computers, workbooks, textbooks, staff development and training costs; or
- Learning materials that are required to meet the learning expectations of the course, but are consumed by the pupil and cannot be used again by another student in the next semester, e.g. a chemical used in a chemistry experiment.

6.0 The Ministry of Education has identified a list of examples of Activities, Programs or Materials Potentially **Eligible** for Fee Charges which include but are not limited to:

- Optional programming such as, Advanced Placement courses or Hockey Canada Skills Academy program;
- Extracurricular trips, events or activities that are extensions to the curriculum and not required for graduation, e.g. dances, school clubs, theme days, athletics, drama, student council activities;
- Extended student trips or excursions that are not necessary to meet the learning expectations of a particular grade or course, e.g. trips abroad;
- Optional art or music supplies or higher quality woodworking, design or technology materials that students choose to use for course completion, as long as the required materials are available at no cost;
- Student activity fees;
- Co-Curricular activities, special events, program enhancements of field trips, e.g. for costs of participation, rental of equipment or travel, if alternative programming and assignments are offered to students who choose not to participate; or
- Student agendas, yearbooks