

SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS	8000
FEES FOR LEARNING MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES POLICY	8010

1. Rationale

Every student has the right to attend a school, at which they are a qualified resident pupil, without payment of a fee. However, some activities or events may require some recovery of the cost for participation. When schools or school boards choose, with the support of the school community, to offer enhanced or optional programming, parents/guardians may be asked to contribute resources in the way of time, money or materials to support these programs or activities.

2. Policy

It is the policy of Lakehead District School Board not to charge student fees for the costs of materials and activities for elementary and secondary education. When appropriate, and with the support of the school community, schools may wish to offer programming and materials beyond what is necessary to meet the learning expectations of a particular grade or course. In those situations for which charging student fees may be appropriate, no student should be excluded from participating in any school activity or event based on the ability to pay. Procedures for the charging and collecting of student fees should, at all times, demonstrate the mission and values of the Board.

3. Definitions

3.1 Student Activity Fees

Student activity fees are voluntary amounts that are used to supplement a student's school experience through materials and activities such as student agendas, student recognition programs, yearbooks, extracurricular activities, school dances or theme days.

3.2 Enhanced Programming and Materials

Enhanced programming and materials are voluntary enrichments or upgrades to the curriculum or co-curricular activities beyond what is necessary to meet the learning expectations for a particular grade or course.

Where students choose not to access these enhanced programs or materials, alternatives must be available as essential course materials required to meet the learning expectations of the course or grade and are to be provided at no cost.

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3.3 Optional Programming

Optional programming refers to voluntary courses or activities that students normally choose to attend through an application process, with the knowledge that these programs are beyond the core curriculum.

4. Guidelines

- 4.1 The purposes for which the funds are collected are consistent with the Board's mission and values.
- 4.2 Fees charged for school purposes are to complement, and not replace, public funding for education.
- 4.3 Students must be able to participate in school activities and access resources regardless of personal financial barriers.
- 4.4 No student will be refused participation in any school activity or event due to the economic circumstances of that student or their family.
- 4.5 All reasonable expectations for privacy of students and parents will be respected during the student fee collection process, and those who may be experiencing financial difficulty will be managed in a discreet manner.
- 4.6 Financial reports will be maintained and made available to the school community.
- 4.7 Successful completion of a required grade or course leading to graduation cannot be dependent on the payment of any course fee.
- 4.8 Fee amounts should reflect the actual cost of the service or materials provided to the student, and in all possible cases, should be modest and within certain limits.
- 4.9 Members of the school community should be consulted in the development of a school's fee schedule and made aware of the use of student fees.

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5. Review

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with 2010 Policy Development and Review Policy.

<u>Cross Reference</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>Legal Reference</u>
8012 Fundraising in the Schools Policy	September 27, 2011	_____
Fees for Learning Materials and Activities Guideline, Ministry of Education, March 2011	<u>Date Revised</u> May 28, 2019	_____