



## School Fees Recommendation June 21, 2022

All schools cover the cost of activities for students wishing to participate but who are unable to pay for an activity. General fundraising activities such as hot lunch programs, product sales, and events like fashion shows, concerts, drama productions or other school-wide events help offset overall cost as well as cover individual costs on a case-by-case basis. School-wide activities are an essential part of building school culture and creating a sense of belonging for staff and students.

### **General School Fees:**

Some schools have also collected an annual fee from each student for the following types of activities:

- school wide team building activities (gym blasts, soc hops, spirit week etc.)
- swimming programs
- skating programs
- student agendas
- class yearbooks
- locker/lock fee
- milk programs
- in transition years there may be a fee collected at a particular grade level for things like year-end camp, farewells, graduation etc.
- optional extra-curricular activities such as sports, drama club, science club etc.

In the past, each school has set their own fee to be collected based upon the activities that they wish to provide to students. The amount per student ranged from \$5 to \$30 for general school fees depending on whether the school chose to offset the fee through fundraising activities.

### **Course-Specific School Fees:**

Certain courses at our schools also have a cost associated with them to either purchase or rent necessary equipment. Fees may be collected for the following types of things:

- musical instrument rental/purchase
- art kit materials
- curling ice rental
- photography materials for personal use
- industrial arts materials for personal projects
- moto-sport materials for personal projects
- home economics materials for personal projects
- first aid certification fees
- babysitting course certification fees
- food handlers certification fees

Teachers may also come across experiential learning opportunities linked to curriculum for which there is no budget assigned. Providing students with these learning opportunities may involve a fee to participate if the entire cost cannot be covered by the school.

### **Recommendation:**

The recommendation is to provide schools with an amount of \$25 dollars per student from accumulated surplus for the 2022-23 school year with consideration for continued funding of general school fees through the divisional budget process going forward. Schools would not be allowed to collect a general fee per student for the upcoming school year. Allocations will be made to schools after the September 30 EIS student count is completed. The projected number of students is 4720 which would create an approximate amount of \$118,000.

### **Proposed Motion:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve a one-time allocation of \$25.00 per student from accumulated surplus to replace the collection of general student fees from families.