

THE HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SUBJECT:

FEES FOR LEARNING MATERIALS AND ACTIVITIES

3E:29

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board believes that no student should be denied access to school based programs, the curriculum or activities on the basis of their inability to pay. Each student should have an equal opportunity to benefit from the education system without being required to pay a fee. The Board believes that schools should be accountable to parents and students regarding the collection and expenditure of fees. The Board shall ensure that Student Fees are only applied as outlined in the following procedures.

PROCEDURE:**POLICY REGULATIONS:**

1.0 It is the policy of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board that:

- In general, there should be no fees charged for day school programs.
- When a school chooses, with the support of the school community to offer enhanced or optional programming, parents may be asked to contribute resources in the way of time, money or materials to support these programs or activities.
- Some activities or events may require some recovery of the cost for participation (i.e. Student Activity Fees).
- Fees may be appropriate in cases where the schools choose to offer enhancements or supplementary learning materials beyond the core curriculum.
- Where fees are appropriate, they should be minimized as much as possible with the goal of supporting student participation in programs and activities regardless of individual economic circumstances.
- School principals shall consult with local Catholic School Councils when considering the administration of fees, and shall report to the broader community regarding the schools' fee schedule. This report shall include an itemized list of fees that states the rationale and purpose of each fee, and information about the process to confidentially address financial hardship.

continued

2.0 Administrative procedures shall be developed to give direction to staff regarding:

- Appropriate administration of fees;
- Communication and consultation with the school community; and
- Examples of potentially eligible and ineligible activities.

GLOSSARY OF KEY POLICY TERMS

Student Activity Fees

Voluntary amounts that are used to supplement a student's school experience through materials and activities such as student agendas, student recognition programs, yearbooks, extra-curricular activities, school dances or theme days.

Enhanced Programming and Materials

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.

Optional Programming

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.

Fee Schedule

An itemized list of fees that states the rationale and purpose of each fee.

BOARD APPROVAL:

September 26, 2011

EFFECTIVE DATE:

September 27, 2011