

Section 9-22.1. Fees allowed; materials provided free of charge; what fees are charged; when fees are not allowed; grounds for waiver of fees; notice of fee required; annual notice to parents; consequences for non-payment; action by School Board. — A. ~~It shall be the policy of the school board to charge student fees and to recover funds for the loss of or damage to school board property in accordance with the Code of Virginia.~~ The School Board charges student fees and takes action to recover funds for the loss of or damage to School Board property in accordance with the state and federal law. No fee may be charged unless it has been approved by the School Board.

B. The School Board shall provide, free of charge, such textbooks as are required for courses of instruction for each child attending public schools. Consumable materials such as workbooks, writing books, and drawing books may be purchased by the School Board and either provided to students at no cost or sold to students at a retail price not to exceed seven percent added to the publisher's price. If sold, the School Board shall ensure that workbooks, writing books, and drawing books are furnished to students who are unable to afford them at a reduced price or free of charge. Fees are not charged to students for instructional materials, textbooks, or other materials used by a School Board employee that are not directly used by a public-school student.

C. ~~Only those fees and charges permitted by law or the regulations of the Board of Education may be required of students. No school or employee may require a fee or charge of any student without the prior approval of the superintendent or his or her designee who may approve such fees and charges only if the School Board has adopted a resolution authorizing the superintendent or his or her designee to approve such fees and charges. In approving any such fee or charge, the superintendent/designee shall ensure that the fee or charge is either reduced or waived for those students who are unable to afford them. The superintendent/designee shall inform the School Board of any fee or charge assessed, and of any changes to such fees/charges.~~

C. The following fees are charged for the following:

1. Optional services, such as parking or locker rental;
2. Student-selected extracurricular activities;
3. Class dues; however, class dues are not mandatory, and programs and activities covered by class dues include class activities;
4. Field trips or educationally-related programs that are not required instructional activities;
5. Fees for musical instruments, so long as the instruction in the use of musical instruments is not part of the required curriculum;

6. Distance learning classes for enrichment and not necessary to meet the requirements for a diploma;
7. Summer school, unless the classes are required for remediation as prescribed by the Standards of Quality, § 22.1-253.13:1 of the Code of Virginia;
8. Lost or damaged library books, school equipment, materials, resources and property;
9. Lost or damaged textbooks, in accordance with § 22.1-243 of the Code of Virginia; however, textbooks shall be provided free of charge;
10. A fee not to exceed a student's pro rata share of the cost of providing transportation for voluntary extracurricular activities, in accordance with § 22.1-176 of the Code of Virginia; and

D. Fees may not be charged: (1) as a condition of school enrollment, except for students who are not of school age or who do not reside within the jurisdiction; 2) for instructional programs and activities, or materials required for instruction, except as specified in by 8 VAC 20-720-80.H; 3) for textbooks or textbook deposits; however, a reasonable fee or charge for lost or damaged textbooks may be charged; 4) for pupil transportation to and from school; or 5) for summer school programs or other forms of remediation required by the Standards of Quality.

For any fee chargeable under this policy, the fee cannot exceed \$750 plus any collection fees charged by a 3rd party agency. The superintendent is authorized to set the fee schedule that will uniformly applied throughout the school division.

E. Fees are reduced or waived for economically disadvantaged students and students whose families are undergoing economic hardships and are financially unable to pay them, including but not limited to, families receiving unemployment benefits or public assistance, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medicaid; foster families caring for children in foster care; and families that are homeless.

F. Each time a fee is charged, notice is given that a fee waiver may be requested. The notice includes directions as to how to apply for a waiver.

G. This policy is provided to parents annually and posted on the division's website.

H. The consequences for non-payment of fees include exclusion from the activity related to the fee.

I. The School Board, upon recommendation of the superintendent, may take action against a pupil or the pupil's parent for any actual loss, breakage, or destruction of property owned by or under the control of the School Board, when such loss, breakage,

or destruction is caused or committed by such pupil in pursuit of his studies, or failure to return property. Such action may include seeking reimbursement from a pupil or pupil's parent for any such loss, breakage, or destruction of or failure to return school property.
(Adopted February 9, 1995; Revised: October 9, 2008; Ordinance Number 08/09-19; Effective: October 10, 2008)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code §22.1-6 (1950), as amended.