

STUDENT FEES, FINES AND CHARGES

The Regional School Board charges student fees and takes action to recover funds for the loss of or damage to Regional School Board property in accordance with the state and federal law. No fee may be charged unless it has been approved by the Regional School Board.

The Regional School Board provides, 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 Regional 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 Regional 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 will not be charged to students for instructional materials, textbooks, or other materials used by a Regional School Board employee that are not directly used by a public school student.

Fees schedules are approved annually by the Regional School Board and posted to the school website.

Fees may be charged for 1) optional services such as parking or locker rental; 2) student-selected extracurricular activities; 3) class dues; 4) field trips or educationally-related programs that are not required instructional activities; 5) fees for musical instruments, as long as the instruction in the use of musical instruments is not part of the required curriculum; 6) distance learning classes for enrichment which are not necessary to meet the requirements for diploma; 7) overdue or lost or damaged library books; 8) lost or damaged textbooks; 9) consumable materials such as workbooks, writing books, drawing books and fine arts materials and supplies; however, workbooks, writing books, drawing books and fine arts materials and supplies must be furnished to students who are unable to afford them at a reduced price or free of charge; fees may not be charged to students for instructional materials, textbooks, or other materials that are not directly used by a public school student; 10) the behind-the-wheel portion of the driver's education program; 11) a fee not to exceed a student's pro rata share of the cost of providing transportation for voluntary extracurricular activities; and 12) the preparation and distribution of official paper copies of student transcripts; a reasonable number of copies of official paper copies must be provided for free before a charge is levied for additional official copies; official electronic copies of student transcripts must be provided for free.

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.

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.

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

This policy will be posted on the school's website.

The consequences for nonpayment of fees include exclusion from the activity related to the fee.

No student's report card, diploma or class schedule will be withheld because of nonpayment of fees or charges. No student will be suspended or expelled for nonpayment of fees or charges.

The Regional School Board upon recommendation of the director may take action against a pupil or the pupil's parent for any actual loss, breakage, or destruction of or failure to return property owned by or under the control of the Regional School Board, caused or committed by such pupil in pursuit of his studies. 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: October 18, 2018

Amended: August 19, 2021

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 8.01-43, 22.1-6, 22.1-243, 22.1-280.4.

8 VAC 20-720-80.

Cross Refs.: Pol No. 8032 Vandalism
 Pol No. 3005 Instructional Materials