

Student Fees Policy Hearing
Monday, July 11, 2022 5:30 PM
McKinley Education Center CMR
301 West F Street
North Platte, NE 69103-1557

1. Roll Call
2. Student Fees Policy # 5045 Hearing
3. Public Comment
4. Adjournment

5045 Student Fees

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

A. Definitions.

- 1.** "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
- 2.** "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.
- 3.** "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

B. Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

1. Guidelines for Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.

Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.

2. Safety Equipment and Attire.

The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.

3. Personal or Consumable Items.

The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.

4. Materials Required for Course Projects.

The district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. In courses where students choose to produce a project that requires materials beyond the basic materials provided by the district, the students will furnish the materials, purchase the materials from the school, or purchase the materials from an outside vendor with an order form provided by the school.

5. Technological Devices

The district will provide students with the technological devices necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. To the extent that a student is not required by the district's curriculum to utilize a device off district property, the district may charge students a convenience fee to take the device off district property. The maximum dollar amount of this convenience fee charged by the district will be \$(sliding fee scale).

As with all school property, students may be charged for damage to such devices. To protect against such potential losses, students and parents may, but are not required, to purchase insurance coverage for the devices. The maximum dollar amount of this insurance coverage facilitated by the district will be \$(sliding fee scale). The district may also charge a damage deposit which will be returned or may be rolled to cover the damage deposit for the next year if it is not needed to cover the costs of any damage to the device. The maximum dollar amount of this damage deposit will be \$(sliding fee scale).

Additionally, the district may allow students to purchase technological devices by arranging for the students to purchase these devices through a single, or series of, payments.

6. Extracurricular Activities.

The district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.

7. Post-Secondary Education Costs.

Some students enroll in postsecondary courses while still enrolled in the district's high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who chose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution.

8. Transportation Costs.

The district will charge students reasonable fees for transportation services provided by the district to the extent permitted by federal and state statutes and regulations.

9. Copies of Student Files or Records.

The district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Parents of students have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records.

10. Participation in Before-and-After-School or Pre-Kindergarten Services.

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in before-and-after school or pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to statute.

11. Participation in Summer School or Night School.

The district will charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school or night school and may charge reasonable fees for correspondence courses.

12. Charges for Food Consumed by Students.

The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

13. Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.

Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all musical extracurricular activities fees and the equipment or attire required for participation in musical extracurricular activities:

14. Contributions for Junior and Senior Class Extracurricular Activities.

Students are eligible to participate in a number of unique extracurricular activities during their last two years in high school, including prom, various senior recognitions, and graduation. In order to fund these extracurricular activities, the school district will ask each student to make a contribution to their class's fund. This contribution is completely voluntary. Students who chose not to contribute to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities.

C. Waiver Policy.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Actual participation in the free or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their building principal.

D. Distribution of Policy.

This policy will be published in the Student Handbook or its equivalent that will be provided to students at no cost.



E. Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

The district will, when appropriate, request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements and staff members of the district are directed to clearly communicate that fact to students, parents and patrons.

F. Fund-Raising Activities

Students may be permitted or required to engage in fund-raising activities to support various curricular and extracurricular activities in which they participate. Students who decline to participate in fund-raising activities are not eligible under this policy for waiver of the costs or fees which the fund-raising activity was meant to defray.

G. Student Fee Fund.

The school board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund that will not be funded by tax revenue, and that will serve a depository for all monies collected from students for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) post-secondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school courses. Monies in the Student Fee Fund shall be expended only for the purposes for which they were collected from students.

Reviewed on: November 6, 2020

Adopted on: April 12, 2021

Effective on: August 10, 2021

Student Fee Waiver Application

The school district will waive certain fees for students who qualify for free and reduced lunches under the income guidelines of the United States Department of Agriculture. If you would like the school district to waive specific student fees for your student, you must fill this form out in its entirety and submit it, along with any required documentation, to the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

Part 1: Name of the student on behalf of whom you are requesting a fee waiver: _____

Part 2: Specific fee(s) for which you are requesting a waiver:

Part 3: Eligibility. Select ONE of the following:

- Check here if your student is eligible for fee waivers because he or she is a foster child. Please attach official documentation from the agency sponsoring the child.
- Check here if your student is eligible for fee waivers because you receive Food Stamps, FDPIR or TANF for the child. Please attach a copy of one of the following:
 - o A Food Stamp, FDPIR or TANF Certification Notice that shows dates of certification
 - o A letter from Food Stamp or Welfare Office confirming your receipt of Food Stamps, FDPIR or TANF
 - o An ATP (Authorization to Participate) card with an expiration date. Do not send your EBT card
- Check here if your student is eligible because your household income is less than 180% of poverty level.

1. Name 2. (list everyone in your household)	Last month's income and how often it was received Example: \$100/monthly \$100/twice a month \$100/every other week				Check if no income
	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	
	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	G
	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	G
	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	G
	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	_____/_____ _____	G
	\$_____/_____ _____	\$_____/_____ _____	\$_____/_____ _____	\$_____/_____ _____	G

Please attach documents verifying the amount of money your household received last month from each source. The documents you provide must show the name of the person who received the income, the date it was received, how much was received and how often it was received.

Acceptable documentation includes:

Jobs: current paycheck stub or pay envelope that shows how often pay is received; letter from employer stating gross wages and how often they are paid; or business or farming papers, such as a ledger or tax books.

Social Security, Pensions, or Retirement: A notice of eligibility from state employment security office, check stub, or letter from Workers= Compensation Court.

Welfare Payments: A benefit letter from a welfare agency.

Child Support or Alimony: A court decree, agreement, or copies of checks received.

Other income (such as rental income): Information that shows the amount of income received, how often it is received, and the date received.

No income: A brief note explaining how you provide food, clothing and housing for your household and when you expect an income.

Part 4. Signature and Verification

An adult household member must sign this application.

PLEASE READ THIS CERTIFICATION BEFORE SIGNING:

I certify that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. By my signature on this document, I give school authorities permission to disclose my student's eligibility for fee waivers to school personnel as necessary to effect the fee waiver. I understand that any clothing, equipment, or other materials used by my student during his or her participation in the activity for which student fees have been waived are and will remain the property of the school district.

Sign: _____

Date: _____

NORTH PLATTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FEES AND WAIVERS

2021-2022

FEES ISSUED	<u>TOTAL</u>
CHOIR	80.00
FCS	320.00
FOODS	1,240.00
ART	1,840.00
WOODS	345.00
ELECTRONICS	45.00
AUTO	315.00
SMALL ENGINE	135.00
WELDING	700.00
BAND	10.00
PHOTOGRAPHY	60.00
YEARBOOKS	2,700.00
ELEMENTARY ORCHESTRA	1,040.00
ACTIVITY CARDS-9-12	3,720.00
ACTIVITY CARDS-7-8	2,120.00
TOTAL	<u>14,670.00</u>

WAIVERS ISSUED	<u>TOTAL</u>
NPBS FEE CLASSES	99
ACTIVITY CARDS 9-12	93
ACTIVITY CARDS-7-8	53
ELEMENTARY ORCHESTRA	26
TOTAL	<u>271</u>