



## Policy 5.20 Student Fees and Financial Hardship

Consistent with the *School Act*, its accompanying Regulation and with the Orders of the Minister, the Board of Education will provide, free of charge, for educational resource materials necessary to participate in an educational program sufficient to meet the general requirements for graduation

The Board commits to providing opportunities for equitable access and participation to all district students. The Board recognizes that some students may not be able to cover costs associated with various aspects of their schooling and commits to ensuring that no student is denied an opportunity to participate in educational programs or activities, based on financial hardship.

Students shall not be charged fees for goods and/or services necessary for the student to meet the learning outcomes or assessment requirements of an educational program, subject to exceptions authorized by the *School Act*.

The Board may require refundable or partly refundable deposits for educational resource materials in accordance with the *School Act*.

The Superintendent will approve a schedule of fees and deposits and will publish the schedule prior to the beginning of the school year to be available to students and parents/guardians.

To ensure that fees and deposits do not become a barrier to student participation in educational programs, the Superintendent shall establish confidential processes to support families who are experiencing financial hardship.