

The Board of Trustees is charged with providing a “general, uniform and through system of public, free common schools.” Student fees will only be assessed as allowed by law.

CLASS FEES

Where a class is offered as part of the regular academic courses of this district, it will be offered without charge. Students may be required to provide their own consumables and may be charged for extraordinary wear and tear, damage, breakage, or loss of school-issued materials.

The administration may establish guidelines identifying when student fees may be charged as provided by law.

IDAHO DIGITAL LEARNING ACADEMY FEES

The district will pay the course fee for each student enrolled in Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA) courses, if the course is part of the student’s full-time enrollment. The district may require a student to pay a course fee if a student enrolls in additional courses beyond full-time enrollment, or a student elects to participate in summer school courses.

The district may make students/parents responsible for any fees charged by colleges or universities to receive college credit for dual credit courses. Additionally, the district may make students/parents responsible for any fees that may be charged by the College Board to take an advanced placement exam. In the event advanced placement and dual credit courses require additional textbooks and/or course materials, the student/parent may be responsible for payment for those additional textbooks and/or course materials.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities are outside of or in addition to the regular academic courses or curriculum of this district. Extracurricular activities are a privilege and are not considered a property, liberty or contract right of any student, and are not deemed a necessary element of a public school education. Students may be charged for extracurricular activities in which they voluntarily participate.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

- Idaho Code Section 33-302 – Classification of school districts
- Idaho Code Section 33-512(12) – Governance of Schools
- Idaho Code Section 33-603 – Payment of fees or returning of property
- Idaho Code Section 33-5505(3) – Definitions
- Idaho Code Section 33-5508 – Funding

IDLA Fees Policy Statement

Paulson v. Minidoka Cnty. Sch. Dist. No. 331, 93 Idaho 469, 463 P.2d 935 (1970)

Joki v. The State of Idaho, et al., Case No. CV OC 2012 17745 (4th District, 11/17/15)

Idaho Constitution, Art. 9, Sec. 1

1985 State of Idaho: Guidelines for Charges of Student Fees

ADOPTED: July 11, 2010

AMENDED: July 19, 2016



WENDELL SCHOOL DISTRICT #232

Guidelines for School Fees

2016-2017 School Year

Guiding Statements

“Where a class is offered as part of the regular academic courses of the school, the course must be offered without charge.” (Recent Court Ruling)

“The test is whether academic credits toward graduation are granted.” (Brian Julian & Andrea J. Fontaine 25th Annual Education Law Seminar)

“Fees should be minimized as much as possible and no student should be excluded in any school activity based on the inability to pay.” (Brian Julian & Andrea J. Fontaine 25th Annual Education Law Seminar)

Regular School Fees for Elective Type Classes

*Classes such as Ceramics, Floral Design, Life Skills, Drawing/Painting, Ag class for science credit, and Fitness must develop a **baseline cost** for the class. The baseline cost is the actual cost that is required to receive full credit for that class. Here is an example from ceramics, if three clay pot projects was required for full credit, then the baseline is the cost of clay for those pots.*

Baseline costs cannot be funded through a required fee. Therefore, schools at registration can communicate this baseline cost to students and parents and then request a “suggested contribution.” When this process takes place at registration, the use of a separate table is strongly suggested.

Classes will offer enhanced opportunities in these classes where a student desires to go beyond the baseline. The student can produce enhanced projects with additional materials at the student’s expense.

Miscellaneous Type Fees

Locker Fees will be entitled Locker Rental. It should be made clear to parents/students that the use of a locker is not mandatory but recommended by the school. In addition, it must be clear to parents/students that the rental cost is refundable if the locker is left in good condition and the padlock is returned to the office.

Activity Fees/Cards are communicated as a voluntary suggested contribution used to supplement a student’s school experience through valuable enhanced materials such as student agendas, student recognition programs, extra-curricular activity attendance, school dances, theme days, etc. The activities should be available to all students.

Student Body Fees are also communicated as voluntary suggested contributions because that funding provides enhanced opportunities for student beyond the baseline courses.

Field Trips and other special events can be funded through a type of fee IF alternative programming and assignments are offered to students who choose not to participate.

School Supplies that are essential to the classroom must be communicated to parent . The supply list should be as generalized as possible for items such as pencils, erasers, glue sticks, etc. It is best not to give exact number of required items, but it may be best to communicate a suggested quantity. Schools can recommend a brand but not require it. Supplies should be as basic as possible. Schools should observe students/parents who struggle with the costs of supplies and have a plan in place to meet those needs without any type of charity stigma attached to a family. When students bring supplies to school classrooms, the supplies cannot be put into a common classroom supply for all students. These supplies must be consumed on an individual student basis by the student who brought them to class.

Scholastic Magazines, Weekly Readers, and other such publications for students will be considered as part of an enhanced program that are supplemental learning materials but not required for a grade. A suggested contribution can be used at registration to help defer these costs.

Physical Education Clothing is permissible when it is clearly communicated that the clothes become student property.

Band Instrument Rentals fees are permissible in order to prevent any type of health or safety concerns for our students.

Extra-Curricular Fees

Extra-curricular fees are permissible for students who choose to participate in those activities. They can be required for participation because the extra-curricular activity is outside of the required, regular academic classes/courses. An example of a permissible extra-curricular activity is the Pay to Participate. Driver's Education is considered extra-curricular.