

DIVISION: PROGRAMS

PROG-313

POLICY NAME:
SCHOOL MATERIALS AND STUDENT FEES

POLICY STATEMENT

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District (“NLESD”) promotes and supports inclusive and socially just school environments. Every student should benefit from, and have equitable access to, programs and resources associated with the regular school day and core curriculum. The NLESD recognizes that schools may need to periodically charge fees in order to offer course enhancements and for learning materials and activities beyond the core curriculum. Such fees must be kept to a minimum and be in accordance with Sections 13 and 14 of the *Schools Act, 1997*.

BACKGROUND

The NLESD recognizes its obligation to ensure that a lack of financial resources for students and their families does not serve as a barrier to students’ access to educational activities and programs. The District is committed to ensuring that students have the necessary materials for school-related activities while making every attempt to minimize the financial impact of additional costs and fees for students and parents/guardians.

SCOPE

This policy is applicable to all students and schools within the jurisdiction of the NLESD.

POLICY DIRECTIVES

1. The NLESD is committed to providing students with the use of required texts and learning materials necessary to be successful in school. While fees may be appropriate and necessary in certain circumstances for course enhancements and school-related activities, fees charged to parents/guardians must be kept to a minimum and be in line with the administrative procedures/regulations for this policy and Department of Education guidelines.

APPROVED: _____

AMENDED: _____

2. A parent/guardian's inability to pay fees must not limit a student's participation in any required activity. In other situations where fees may be charged to students, the school administration should strive to reduce barriers to participation and, in a confidential manner, make every effort to assist students with limited financial means.
3. Where parents/guardians are required by the school to purchase items for their children, the school must make every effort to notify them as soon as possible of the requirements (e.g., notification in June for the upcoming school year).

REVISED DRAFT Jan 8, 2015

APPROVED: _____

AMENDED: _____