

STUDENTS

1 Student Fees and Fines

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3 Within the concept of free public education, the District will provide an educational program for  
4 students as free of costs as possible.

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6 The Board may charge a student a reasonable fee for any course or activity not reasonably related to  
7 a recognized academic and educational goal of the District or for any course or activity taking place  
8 outside normal school functions. The Board may waive fees in cases of financial hardship.

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10 The Board delegates authority to the Superintendent to establish appropriate fees and procedures  
11 governing collection of fees and asks the Superintendent to make annual reports, at the regular June  
12 Board meeting, to the Board regarding fee schedules. The Board also may require fees for actual  
13 cost of breakage and for excessive supplies used in commercial, industrial arts, music, domestic  
14 science, science, or agriculture courses.

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16 The District holds a student responsible for the cost of replacing materials or property that are lost or  
17 damaged because of negligence. A building administrator will notify a student and parent regarding  
18 the nature of violation or damage, how restitution may be made, and how an appeal may be  
19 instituted. The district may not refuse to transfer files to another district because a student owes fines  
20 or fees. The District may not withhold the school schedule of a student because the student owes  
21 fines or fees.

22  
23 The district may withhold the grades, diploma, or transcripts of a current or former student who is  
24 responsible for the cost of school materials or the loss or damage of school property until the student  
25 or the student's parent or guardian pays the owed fines or fees..

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27 In the event a student who owes fines or fees transfers to another school district in the state and the  
28 District has decided to withhold the student's grades, diploma, or transcripts from the student and  
29 the student's parent or guardian pursuant to the above paragraph, the District shall:

- 30 i. Upon receiving notice that the student has transferred to another school district in the state,  
31 notify the student's parent or guardian in writing that the school district to which the  
32 student has transferred will be requested to withhold the student's grades, diploma, or  
33 transcripts until any obligation has been satisfied;
- 34 ii. Forward appropriate grades or transcripts to the school district to which the student has  
35 transferred;
- 36 iii. At the same time, notify the school district to which the student has transferred of any  
37 financial obligation of the student and request the withholding of the student's grades,  
38 diploma, or transcripts until any obligations are met;
- 39 iv. When the student or the student's parent or guardian satisfies the obligation, inform the  
40 school district to which the student has transferred.

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42 A student or parent may appeal the imposition of a charge for damages to the Superintendent and to  
43 the Board.

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- 2 Legal reference:                    § 20-1-213(3), MCA    Transfer of school records
- 3    § 20-5-201, MCA      Duties and sanctions
- 4    § 20-7-601, MCA      Free textbook provisions
- 5    § 20-9-214, MCA      Fees
- 6

7 Policy History:

- 8 Adopted on:                    February 2007
- 9 Revised on:                    February 14, 2011, October 2015, May 2016, March 2020
- 10
- 11 October 2015 revision note: Added process for working with transfer districts.