

Staff Report



April 16, 2024

To Board of Education (Public Meeting)
From Sean Nosek, Superintendent/CEO
Re School Fees and Deposits for 2024/25

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Education approve the following school fees and deposits for the 2024-25 school year:

- Student Activity Fees for middle and secondary schools of up to \$30 per student. The student activity fee covers costs such as student agendas, guest speakers, student identity cards, school events, student recognition, student leadership, locks and locker rentals. Schools shall not charge for a student agenda if it is to be used as a learning resource or for assessment purposes;
- Parking permits of up to \$16 for the right to park as well as for administrative expenses at secondary schools where required;
- Graduation Fee of up to \$60 per student, the basic amount for the cost of the convocation ceremony (e.g. gown and stole rental, keeper cap and tassel, folder, diploma, and tickets to convocation/venue, tea/reception);
- Personal supplies in accordance with the supply list approved by the district;
- Bakerview Centre for Learning non-fundable registration fee of \$25 for continuing education courses
- Course Fee: \$550 for graduated adults taking non-funded courses;
- Refunds for graduated adults paying \$550 course tuition will be processed as follows:
 - Bakerview Centre for Learning: Continuing Education, refunds for fee paying graduated adults will be granted up to 4 days of attendance after registration. There will be a 10% per day holdback to a maximum of 40%. Withdrawal after four days will result in no refund. Individuals wishing a refund due to hardship after registration will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - Abbotsford Virtual School, upon placement into a distributed learning course: refunds may be granted: 100% within two days, 75% within a week, and 50% within 30 days. Refunds will not be considered after 30 days.
- International Baccalaureate Programme Exam Fee as follows:
 - \$150 for a student registered for one IB class in their Grade 11 year
 - \$300 for a student registered for two IB classes in their grade 11 year
 - \$450 for a student registered for three or more IB classes in their grade 11 year

.../2

BACKGROUND:

Student fees for the Abbotsford School District are permitted under the School Act, Section 82(3) and Administrative Procedure 317 - Student Fees (attached). The Board is required to approve school fees and deposits annually. These fees have been reviewed at both secondary and middle school levels.

The Student Activity Fee listed above has not increased for the 2024-25 school year and will be published by all schools. Schools requiring deposits for educational materials will make that information available along with the list of fees and personal supplies as per district administrative procedure.

Ministry Graduated Adult funding requires that adult graduates pay the full fee to register for 'Academic Upgrading Courses'. For the 2024-25 school year, the district will charge a non-refundable course fee of \$550 for Graduated Adults 19 years of age and over. Foundations Courses continue to be tuition-free. Bakerview Centre for Learning currently faces multiple course registrations per student and cancellations at the last minute which impact whether the courses can be viable to run with insufficient enrolment.

Abbotsford Senior Secondary International Baccalaureate program students must complete six IB classes and write six IB exams. The school has been incurring the cost of regular IB expenses in addition to the exam fees which exceed the district allocated funds. Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, International Baccalaureate Programme Exam Fees will be assessed to students as follows:

- \$150 for a student registered for one IB class in their Grade 11 year
- \$300 for a student registered for two IB classes in their grade 11 year
- \$450 for a student registered for three or more IB classes in their grade 11 year