

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Related Entries: CND, JNA-RA, IPD-RA

Responsible Office: Chief Operating Officer

Curricular Expenses for Students

A. PURPOSE

To ensure that Montgomery County Public Schools provides all students, regardless of their economic circumstances, with full access to all courses, the instructional materials required for those courses, and the instructional program

To set forth the objectives to be followed with regard to student curricular expenses

B. POSITION

1. The school system shall provide:
 - a) Access to content material required to meet course outcomes
 - b) Safety equipment needed in all courses requiring such equipment
 - c) Three transcripts for each student without charge
2. It may be requested that students purchase supplemental materials. Reasonable access to supplemental materials may not be denied to any student.
3. Students will not be penalized academically for their inability to pay for curricular or supplemental materials.
4. Individual student projects become their personal property in courses such as family and consumer science, career and technology education, art, theater, and music. In such cases, curricular expenses may be charged. The cost will be established between the student and the teacher prior to starting the project, or it may be encompassed in a predetermined course fee.

5. If a student damages or breaks supplies or equipment through gross negligence, then the student is responsible for reimbursing the school system for the damage in accordance with regulation.
6. Lab fees may be charged, however, no student will be excluded from participation in any course requiring lab fees based on the inability to pay the fee.
7. Each school shall develop and publish a list of curricular expenses by course, subject area, or additional instructionally related items that has been approved by the appropriate Community Superintendent in accordance with regulation. The charges are to be fixed annually.
8. Schools are encouraged to provide field trips for their students that relate to the instructional program. Individual students may not be deprived of participating in field trips related to the instructional program based on an inability to pay the fee.
9. There are optional expenses that students may incur during their school years which are not related to curriculum and are the responsibility of the student. These expenses may include voluntary purchases such as athletic shoes, school newspapers, yearbooks, and class rings.

C. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

Policy History: Resolution No. 792-71, December 14, 1971, reformatted in accordance with Resolution 333-86, June 12, 1986, and 456-86, August 12, 1986, accepted by Resolution No. 518-86, September 22, 1986; amended by Resolution No. 364-03, July 8, 2003.