

LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING, AND SCHOOL FEES

Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

The Constitution of California requires that we provide public education to students free of charge and the Laguna Beach Unified School District is committed to ensuring that all public school programs are available to every student, every day.

There are, however, specific statutes in the Education Code and other laws which identify specific circumstances when fees are permissible. These include, but are not limited to:

- Fees for **transportation to and from school**, and transportation between school and regional occupational centers, programs or classes, as long as the fee does not exceed the statewide average unsubsidized cost per student and provided there is a waiver provision based on financial need. (Education Code § 39807.5).
- Charges for **food served to students**, subject to free and reduced price meal program eligibility and other restrictions specified in law. (Education Code §§ 38082 and 38084).
- Paying the **replacement cost for District books or supplies loaned to a student** that the student fails to return, or that is willfully cut, defaced or otherwise injured, up to an amount not to exceed \$10,000. (Education Code §§ 19910-19911 and 48904).
- Fees for **field trips and excursions** in connection with courses of instruction or school related social, educational, cultural, athletic, or school band activities, as long as no student is prevented from making the field trip or excursion because of lack of sufficient funds. (Education Code § 35330(b)).
- **Medical or hospital insurance for field trips** that is made available by the school district. (Education Code § 35331).
- **Reimbursement for the direct cost of materials provided to a student** for property the student has fabricated from such materials for his/her own possession and use, such as wood shop, art, or sewing projects kept by the student. (Education Code § 17551).
- Reimbursement for the actual **cost of duplicating public records, student records, or a prospectus of the school curriculum**. (Government Code § 6253; Education Code § 49091.14).
- **Deposits for band instruments, music, uniforms and other regalia** which school band members take on excursions to foreign countries. (Education Code § 38120).

School districts, schools, programs, and classes can seek and accept donations so long as it is truly voluntary and in no way a prerequisite to participation in the program or activity. As with donations, fundraising activities and programs are also permitted as long as the raising of funds is voluntary. A student who is asked to but does not raise funds may not be denied participation in an educational activity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Jeff Dixon at jdixon@lbusd.org or 949-497-7700 ext. 5212.

Sincerely,

Jason Vilorio, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools