

# WEST PARK HIGH SCHOOL

## Free & Public Education Statement

**Mission Statement:** *We value people and we love to learn.*

Under the California Constitution, the “free school guarantee” prohibits charging students any fee, charge or deposit for curricular, co-curricular, credit or non-credit activities that are part of the District’s or a school site’s education program. There are, however, specific statutes in the Education Code and other laws which identify definite circumstances when fees and charges are permissible. Those specific situations are outlined below.

Nothing in the law prohibits voluntary donations, contributions and fundraising by students and their families to support district and school site programs, so long as monetary donations, contributions and fundraising activities are not mandatory for students and their families and no conditions are placed upon the donation.

Charges by private businesses to students for services that are not integral parts of the District’s or a school site’s educational are permissible, even if facilitated by the District or school site (e.g., school pictures or sports pictures).

Clear communication is critical to help families and the community understand how they can best support the programs in which their children are participating. Questions regarding student fees, charges, donations or fundraisers should be directed to the site principal.