

<p>PRESTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION</p> <p>FILE: 11 - STUDENTS</p> <p>File: 11-26 Student Fees, Fines, Charges, Instructional Resources and Materials</p>	<p>Last Reviewed: 8-9-10</p> <p>Next Review: 7-1-12</p>
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The West Virginia Constitution mandates a thorough and efficient system of free schools, which makes education a fundamental constitutional right. A 1995 State Supreme Court decision further stated that whatever items are deemed necessary to accomplish the goals of the school system and are in fact an integral, fundamental part of elementary and secondary education must be provided free of charge to all students. Therefore, all Preston County Schools must be mindful of the following:

- ❖ Books and school supplies are essential parts of a system of free public schools and must be supplied to all students.
- ❖ Students may be required to pay for materials involved in student projects that go beyond the basic fundamental instruction in the classroom and will become the property of the student once completed. (i.e., Advanced art projects or advanced shop projects)
- ❖ A student may not be denied the right to attend a public school for failure to pay a tuition fee or other charge, which may be classified as a registration fee.
- ❖ Schools may not withhold student grades, refuse to promote them, withhold their diploma or transcripts or, in any way, deny them an education because they are unable to pay school fines.
- ❖ Under a "free" school system fees cannot be charged as a requirement for students to be admitted to school. The collection of student fees or charges for any student enrolled in the regular school program in Preston County is prohibited. This does not apply to extracurricular activities that are not necessary under the required curriculum. Student dues voted on by members of voluntary extracurricular activities or classes shall be kept as low as possible.
- ❖ Charges for activities not in the normal instructional curriculum may be collected if the particular projects are approved by the Board in advance. There shall be no deviation from these procedures except by special permission of the Board.
- ❖ Parents and students shall be responsible for replacement of any instructional materials (i.e. books, certain other durable materials, etc.) which are unnecessarily injured or destroyed. **(WVC 18-5-21; Article XII West Virginia Constitution; State Superintendent Memo; Randolph County BOE v. Adams)**

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Adopted: December 12, 1983
Amended/Revised: August 9, 2010