

## **SCHOOL FEES**

Currently, the Public Schools Act - subsections 48(1)(f), (h), (j) and (w); section 73; and section 75 - authorizes school divisions/districts to impose fees in certain circumstances. The Swan Valley School Division accepts, as the basis for its policy, the guidelines concerning fees as established by Manitoba Government, November 1998. With regard to collection of fees, the School Division/school act in accordance with P.S.A. amendment 48(o), November 1996.

*48(o) "Except as otherwise provided in this act collect or recover in any court of competent jurisdiction as a debt fees owing to it from a parent or legal guardian of a pupil attending or receiving a service from a school in the school division or school district."*

1. The Swan Valley School Division shall not charge fees for goods and services provided to students of school age without which the student could not meet required learning outcomes or assessment requirements of an educational program provided by the division except for:
  - a) materials used in goods that are intended for the student to take home for personal use;
  - b) the purchase of paper, writing tools, calculators, student planners, exercise books, computer diskettes and other school supplies and equipment for a student's personal use;
  - c) the rental of a musical instrument for a student's personal use;
  - d) fees in respect of field trips, team trips or special events to recover associated actual expenses only, including transportation, accommodation, meals, entrance fees and equipment rental but not including substitute teacher costs.
2. Swan Valley School Division directs its schools to consider procedures which facilitate participation by students who would otherwise be excluded due to financial hardship.
3. Swan Valley School Division will not charge fees for transportation of students to their designated school as mandated (primarily related to distance from school) by The Public Schools Act. A fee may be charged for all other transported public school students.



4. Swan Valley School Division may require students, at the students/parents' expense, to provide appropriate personal clothing for school activities such as gym wear, footwear, outerwear, personal safety equipment and musical instruments or require a student to bring appropriate materials, supplies and equipment for their personal use at school.
5. This policy applies to school age students, i.e. students having the right to attend school.
6. Swan Valley School Division requests that advisory councils, parent councils and/or student councils do not charge fees that would be in violation of this policy.
7. Swan Valley School Division asks that its schools make available to parents a comprehensive fee schedule prior to the start of each school year.