

2011:B02

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Secretary/Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Gabriel F. Sékaly
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business and Finance Division

DATE: March 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Guideline for Fees for Learning Materials and Activities
Draft Guideline for Fundraising

I am writing to you today to share the Guideline for Fees for Learning Materials and Activities that results from a collaborative, consultative process that began in November 2009. On behalf of the Ministry, I would like to thank you for participating in this consultation. The policies that result from this guideline will continue to build public confidence and demonstrate that Ontario has a well-managed education system that focuses resources on students.

As stated in Memorandum 2010:B11, it is important to ensure existing practices are not in contravention of the Education Act requirement that resident pupils are entitled to attend a regular day school program without payment of a fee. Further, pupils are entitled to receive the materials required to meet the curriculum expectations of a particular grade or course. Funding for classroom supplies should be used as intended and reviewed as part of the board budgeting process.

The guideline establishes a province-wide standard that provides a foundation for each school board to develop or amend its own policy. The best practices and examples included are not intended to be a comprehensive list. Boards are encouraged to examine more specific issues and best practices, including identifying common lists of supplies, financial hardship policies and consistency of practices across the province. New or amended policies are required to be posted on the board website by **September 1, 2011**.

For your information, we have also released the draft fundraising guideline and asked that comments be returned by August 30, 2011 (copy attached).

For more information about the guideline, or if you have any questions, please contact Jeanette Robinson at (416) 325-2049 or jeanettemarie.robinson@ontario.ca.

Original signed by:

Gabriel F. Sékaly
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business & Finance Division

cc. Superintendents of Business