news release

Increases in fees proposed for the 2014-15 school year

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CALGARY— The 2014-15 CBE operating budget is proposing increases to fees to ensure the entire cost of providing the service is recovered from users. The instructional budget will no longer contribute to support fee-based programs and services.

"In keeping with our values that student learning is our top priority, we need to ensure that our fees fully cover the cost of services. This will allow us allocate our instructional dollars to core programming and services and not use the money earmarked for the classroom to subsidize fees," said Brad Grundy, CBE chief financial officer.

CBE centrally manages three fees paid by parents: instructional supplies and materials (ISM), transportation and noon supervision.

ISM Fees

ISM fees are used for supplies and materials deemed necessary for instruction such as textbooks and workbooks; novels and other written materials; as well as paper and photocopying.

For 2014-15 ISM kindergarten and elementary fees will stay the same while there will be fee increases for junior and senior high students:

2014-15 proposed ISM fees

Kindergarten	\$15
Grades 1-6	\$30
Grades 7-9	\$137
Grades 10-12	\$152

Transportation fees

Busing our students to schools is a reality in our growing city where not all new communities have a school and existing schools in new communities are at, or over, capacity.

The Province provides funding for students who live more than 2.4 km from their designated school. CBE currently transports students who live approximately 1.5 km from their designated school. For 2014-15, the CBE will be making a change to its

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transportation service delivery. Some charter bus stops will be congregated in order to reduce costs and minimize the impact of fee increases.

CBE is also moving to standardize transportation fees in fairness to all service users.

2014-15 proposed transportation fees

Kindergarten	\$330
Grades 1-9	\$330

Noon supervision fees

Noon supervision fees are charged to cover the costs related to supervision of students in full-day kindergarten through Grade 6. CBE receives no Provincial funding for noon supervision so cost-recovery fees are required.

In 2012, CBE announced it would phase-in fee increases for noon supervision for bused students. This will be the first year that bused students will pay the full cost of noon supervision fees

2014-15 Noon Supervision Fees

Four day	\$250
Four/five day	\$270
Five day	\$280

CBE provides parents with two mechanisms to waive fees either due to low income or hardship assessed by the student's principal. No child is denied access to education or services because of an inability to pay.

The charging of fees is governed by the School Act and CBE Administrative Regulation 7005: Student Fees.

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See other 2014-15 CBE Operating Budget news releases:

- Calgary Board of Education proposed 2014-15 operating budget released
- CBE operating budget supports students