

River Trails School District 26

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To: Finance Committee

From: Ryan Berry

Date: November 4, 2024

Subject: 2025-26 Fees Discussion Preliminary Recommendation

The total 2024-25 budgeted District fees, which include transportation, materials and technology, Chromebook insurance, summer school tuition and preschool tuition are \$385,400. This represents 1.3% of the 24-25 Operating Revenue Budget.

In addition to changes in the Chromebook insurance fee, a recommendation to restructure transportation fees is also being proposed. The administration is recommending removing the family maximum payment and only accessing fees based on a per rider basis. Future transportation costs are unknown, and the proposed structure allows a more equitable fee to be accessed for all riders. This recommendation is being proposed along with a reduction to the single-rider transportation fee.

Based on the recommendation of the removal of the Chromebook insurance fee, and an increase to the Materials and Technology fee, the following fees rates are being recommended for the 2025-26 school year:

	<u>2024-25</u> *	<u>2025-26</u> *
Material and Technology - K-5	\$ 225	\$ 250
Material and Technology - 6-8	\$ 255	\$ 280
Chrome Book Insurance - all	\$ 25	\$ 0
Transportation	\$ 160	\$ 140
Preschool tuition	\$2,800	\$2,850
Preschool snack *Fees shown as early bird payments	\$ 90	\$ 90

The 2025-26 fee proposal represents an anticipated overall decrease in anticipated revenue, but maintains a 1.3% share of anticipated operating revenue for the 2025-26 projection. Attachments show the effect of raising fees by 0, 2, 5, and 10% and is meant as a guide for discussion.

Furthermore, it is recommended that the district continue the early payment discount of \$25 for material fees and \$50 for transportation fees if payment is received at the district office by May 1, 2024. We have held this practice for the last several years.

Students on free lunch do not pay material and technology fees and those on reduced lunch pay half fees. For those students on free or reduced lunch that require paid transportation we offer payment plans at \$50 per month. As long as the first payment is made by May 1, we will not charge a late fee.