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Board of Education

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Karen Apostoli, Director of Business & Operations

DATE: January 9, 2025

RE: School Year 2025-26 Student Fees

Ιh	IS	memo	IS:

[] Information only.
Information with a recommendation, and a request for Board consent.
[X] Information with a recommendation, and a request for Board approval by vote.
Date by which a Board decision is needed: <u>01/23/25</u>
Previous memos on this topic can be found:
[] in previous Board packet(s) dated <u>01/04/24</u>
[] or attached to this memo
Basic information:
The administration is asking the Board to approve student fees for the 2025-26 school year.

Background or historical information:

More than 50% of D33 students are considered Low-Income (per the Department of Human Services and ISBE) and are eligible for a waiver of required student fees. In addition, the Administration is aware of many families that are eligible for the waiver of fees but choose not to apply for various reasons. There are also a number of families that are just above the Low-Income threshold and are not eligible for a waiver of fees. Families that are eligible receive a 50% waiver on optional student fees for extracurricular activities on a case-by-case basis.

The <u>proposed student fees for the 2025-26</u> school year reflect both the impact of the current recovering economy on families and the increasing cost of maintaining current technology learning tools such as iPads, Chromebooks, STEM Lab tools, and ClearTouch Boards. In recent years, various ESSER Grants have been essential to obtaining student devices and classroom learning tools. Those grants have now ended.

Over the course of a student's learning experience in District 33, the student will use the following technology tools:

- 1 iPad (kindergarten & 1st grade)
- 2 Chromebook (2nd 5th) & (6th 8th)
- Various STEM Lab tools such as Ozobots, Beebots, etc.

Sports Fees Comparisons:

Benjamin (D25) - \$60 per sport

Glen Crest -Glen Ellyn - \$45 per sport

Glen Ellyn (D41) - \$40 per year

Wheaton (D200) - \$125 per sport

Stratford/Jay Stream (D93) - \$20 per sport

Glenside (Glendale Hts) - \$28 per sport

Marquart (Glendale Hts) - \$0

Glen Westlake (Lombard) - \$32 per sport (track/cross country \$20)

Previous decisions, actions, or parameters related to this topic or issue:

D33 has not increased student fees since the 2009-10 school year. Student fees account for approximately \$125,000.

Due to the economic impact of the pandemic and continuing high inflation, the Board has waived all student fees beginning with the 2020-21 school year through the 2023-24 school year. The attached student fees were in place for the 2024-25 school year.

Recommendations:

The administration is recommending that the Board approve the attached student fees for the 2025-26 school year.

Other questions? What else does the Board wish to know?: