

POLICY

SOUTH ORANGE MAPLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students
5513

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY (M)

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The Board of Education believes the school district should help students learn to respect property and instill feelings of pride in their school. The Board requires each student in the district to take responsibility and care for school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to the student by the school district. ~~charges each student enrolled in the District with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to the student's use.~~

Students who cause damage to **or lose** school property may be subject to disciplinary measures **in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and Restorative Justice.** The Board authorizes the imposition of a fine for the loss, damage, or defacement of a textbook, or other educational materials, equipment, buildings or facilities, or any other property belonging to the District, **not to exceed the cost to replace or repair the school property.** **Students shall not be charged late fees for library or other resource materials, and any late fees that have been assessed shall be expunged.**

A student who **demonstrates chronic and/or serious disregard for property** may be referred to the **school-based administrators for next steps to support the student.** ~~Child Study Team.~~

No student shall be denied the opportunity to participate in school activities, including but not limited to field trips, prom or graduation ceremonies due to **unpaid fines** ~~library late fees or unpaid cafeteria accounts, or other fines which have been successfully appealed.~~ **The District shall not withhold transcripts or diplomas due to unpaid fines.**

~~The Board reserves the right to take action if a student fails to pay a fine, fails to make arrangements to pay, or fails to dispute a fine. The Board's action may include, but not be limited to, withholding a report card or diploma from any student who has not paid a fine, not made arrangements to pay, or not challenged the fine. Withholding of a report card or diploma will not be permitted for Library late fees or unpaid Cafeteria accounts.~~

The Superintendent shall develop ~~regulations~~ **rules** for the **safekeeping and accounting of textbooks and other resource materials** and prepare a schedule of fines for lost, damaged and destroyed textbooks **and other resource materials** ~~implementation of Policy.~~ Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be: (1) **given notice** of the fines, including the amount of each and the reason for the fine; (2) provided a mechanism for challenging the fine upon presentation of evidence that the fine was improperly imposed or has been



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paid; and (3) provided with the ability to request a waiver of the fine **or a payment plan** due to financial hardship.

Last Edited 7/14/22

N.J.S.A.18A:34-2; 18A:37-3
N.J.A.C. 6A:23-6.6

Cross reference: 2530 Resource Material

Adopted: 2 April 2001

Revised: 13 May 2019

