

## **San Carlos Charter Learning Center**

### **Learner Fees Policy**

In order to be fully compliant with AB 1575 (2012), the San Carlos Charter Learning Center has adopted the following policies and procedures regarding student (learner) fees.

1. Learners enrolled in the San Carlos Charter Learning Center (SCCLC) shall not be required to pay a “pupil fee” for participation in an “educational activity” as defined in California Education Code 49010.
2. All supplies, materials, and equipment needed to participate in educational activities shall be provided to learners free of charge.
3. SCCLC does not use a “fee waiver” policy to make pupil fees permissible.
4. SCCLC does not intend to establish a two-tier educational system by requiring a minimal educational standard and also offering a second higher educational standard that learners may only obtain through payment of a fee or purchase of additional supplies that the school does not provide.
5. Voluntary donations of funds or property or participation in fundraising activities are encouraged and allowed but such fund raising is completely voluntary.
6. All fees allowed under Education Code 48904 regarding damaged or unreturned items remain allowed under this policy. Specifically, books (library, classroom) or other materials provided free of charge to learners must be replaced if lost or damaged.
7. Milestone activities and field trips are considered integral to our instruction and may be subject to participation fees. The school maintains scholarships to assist families who cannot pay for participation and does not deny any learner access to participation due to non-payment of the fee.
8. The SCCLC will not discriminate in any way based on whether a learner, parents or guardians contribute time or money to the school.
9. For physical education in grades 5-8, learners shall wear appropriate shorts and tee shirts, which can be purchased from the physical education educator. Learners whose families cannot purchase the physical education attire may ask for a scholarship to purchase clothing, wear clothing similar to the required attire or may ask for loaner clothes from the school.

10. The SCCLC allows the purchase of optional items such as yearbooks, school pictures, etc. and does not consider those as required fees.
11. Parents or guardians who believe that they are being charged a fee for anything they believe is illegal under AB 1575 should contact the Director in order to file a complaint under the SCCLC Uniform Complaint procedures. A complaint may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence or information to support an allegation of noncompliance.
12. Complaints will be investigated and resolved within 60 days of receipt of the complaint. If the complaint is resolved pursuant to an investigation, the Director shall issue a written decision stating the findings of fact and the reasons for the disposition of the complaint.
13. If a complaint is found to have merit, the school will reimburse all affected learners, parents or guardians.
14. If a complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the Director, the complainant may appeal to the Board of Directors.