



**Monitoring Student Fees, Donations,
and Fundraising Guidelines Compliance**

Date: _____

Section 5 of Article IX of the State of California Constitution guarantees students a “free public education.” The State Supreme Court concluded in the 1984 case of Hartzell v. Connell (35 Cal.3d.899 (1984)), “that all educational activities carried on by public school districts, extra-curricular as well as curricular, must be without cost to the students who participate in such activities.” This same ruling found that “mandatory fees for participating in such extra-curricular activities as drama, music, and athletic competition were illegal under the State Constitution.” Furthermore, they also rejected the argument that “fees could be charged so long as the district waived fees for students who were financially unable to pay.”

The school principal is responsible for informing the school staff, students, parents, and community of this right, and for ensuring that all written and oral communications reflect this right.

I, _____, principal of _____ School, confirm that I have:

Date Completed:

- _____ Met with all faculty and staff to review, discuss, and respond to questions regarding compliance with the guarantee of a “free public education.” (A list is on file of those in attendance and the dates of such meetings.)
- _____ Reviewed the school web site for compliance with the guarantee of a “free public education.”
- _____ Posted a link on the school’s website
- _____ Notified parents/guardians via the principal’s newsletter of the guarantee of a “free public education.” (Published in each newsletter.)
- _____ Published a statement in student/parent handbook or information packet stating that fees will not be charged for participating in extra- and co-curricular activities.
- _____ Reviewed course syllabi for compliance with the guarantee of a “free public education.”
- _____ Reviewed school’s course catalog to ensure that no course description requires students to purchase materials, supplies, equipment, or uniforms associated with a class.
- _____ Met with the athletic director, coaches for each season of sport, club sponsors, and parent organizations and foundations to review guidelines for providing a “free public education.” (Agendas are kept denoting item.)

Associate Superintendent’s Signature

Date