



May 23, 2023

Dear Regina Public Schools Families:

Following the release of the 2023-24 Provincial Budget, school divisions, including Regina Public Schools, have been faced with some difficult budget decisions. Operating funding announced in the March 2023 Provincial Budget provided a 1 per cent increase to cover inflationary increases in employee salaries and benefits, utilities, and transportation as well as enrolment growth of at least 700 students over last year's budget.

As a result, we will have to carefully look at staffing levels, reduce lesser priority spending, and increase other revenue sources, such as fees, to manage within the resources allocated to us while minimizing impacts on student classroom learning. While some of our cost saving planning and changes may not have an immediate impact on students, changes to noon supervision fees is one that families need timely notice of.

Effective September 2023, noon supervision fees will apply to all elementary and high school students who stay at school for lunch, including students who are transported to school by the School Division. The same rates will apply to all students, regardless of how many days per week they stay at school for lunch.

*How much is the fee?*

- Kindergarten ..... \$55
- Elementary ..... \$110
- High School ..... \$55

Fees are capped at \$220 per year.

Originally introduced in the 2016-17 school year to elementary and non-bused students, the fee was implemented to offset costs associated with schools providing noon supervision for students who spend their lunch time at school. The fee was originally set at \$100 per year with a \$200 family maximum and has not been adjusted in the six years since it was introduced. Revenues from the fee currently cover less than 20% of the cost of providing noon supervision.

We appreciate that any new or increased fee might present challenges to some families. Please rest assured that ability to pay the fee will not be a barrier to students needing to stay at school over the lunch period. Please reach out to your school principal if the increased cost creates a hardship for your family. We respect all families' privacy and all conversations are confidential.

*How will I pay for the fee?*

Each student (family) will complete an online registration form on School Cash Online and pay for the fees through that program at <https://rbe.schoolcashionline.com/>. Although the online method is preferred, a paper form will be available to families who are unable to access the online form. A one-time online payment for the year is preferred, however, alternative payment options, including in-person payments can be made. Please work with your school directly.

Payment notifications will be sent out at the beginning of the school year and through School Cash Online with periodic reminders throughout the school year.

Remember that receipts provided to families can be used for childcare expenses for income tax purposes.

Thank you for your continued understanding as we work to continue to educate your children within the resources available to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Darren Boldt  
Director of Education/CEO