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## Student Fees for 2021-2022 School Year

<b>Table 1: BLA Annual Student Fee Schedule (Per Student)</b>			
<b>Fee Category</b>	<b>Grades K- 5</b>	<b>Grades 6 - 8</b>	<b>Grades 9 - 12</b>
Annual Student Fee	<b>\$40.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>

**Important notes regarding fees at BLA:** Banning Lewis Academy has changed the fee structure for students for the 2021-2022 school year. Our goal is to bring about more transparency of where fees are utilized within the school and provide rationale for the fees. Please read through this document carefully to see this information and to pay your student fees for the 2021-2022 school year.

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**Fees are used for** items and services that go back to the students. Below is a list that includes some of these fees.

**K-5:** Schoology online fee, art, recorder for music, music fun (upkeep of ukuleles, tuning piano, etc), and other expendable items for students.

**6-8:** Schoology fee, electives department budget (art, music, technology, PE, weights, publications, computer science), core subject supplies (binders, paper, pencils, expo markers, rulers, scissors, glue, protractors) and other miscellaneous expendables.

**9-12:** Schoology fee, electives department budget (art, music, technology, PE, weights, publications, computer science), core subject expendable supplies as determined by departments.

**Not included in fees:**

Field trips, yearbook, bus fees, student parking fee, activity pass, dances, replacement ID, replacement planner, graduation, promotion, other individual costs.

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**Payments:**

See Fee Schedule above (Table 1).

**Please note:** students who have not paid the annual fee may not be eligible for field trips and other events throughout the school year.

- Payments are made via credit card at <https://www.payschoolscentral.com/>
- **Traditionally we have paid fees at Round - Up; however, we have streamlined this process and payments can be made starting today by clicking the link above.**
- Cash and checks will not be accepted for the 2021-2022 school year.

### **PaySchools Central Help:**

If you have not previously set up an account, please click “Register” on the top right hand side of the login page. Please follow the steps to register your student’s account. You will need your student’s ID number to register, these are located on their schedule that was sent by email.

Once logged in, please click “Assigned Fees”. Then click on your student and add the fee to your cart. For student drivers, please click “Optional Fees” to purchase the parking pass fee.

For questions regarding PaySchools, please call: 877-393-6628

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### **Fee Waivers:**

BLA waives or reduces fees for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch programs. For qualified families as determined by US Government guidelines, the application process is anonymous and District 49 processes the applications. Click the link [Meal Assistance Program](#) to access the application - no BLA staff member determines eligibility. All required fees automatically zero out in PaySchools.

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### **Refund Policy:**

95% of student fee refunded if student transfers before August 23, 2021. 0% refund if student transfers after August 23, 2021.

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## **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding BLA Student Fees**

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- 1. Why does BLA charge fees if it is a tuition-free public school?** Colorado has one of the lowest state per pupil base funding levels in the United States. Additionally, District 49 has less local tax revenue than District 20 and District 11. To provide quality programming, schools may charge parents fees to support extra programs important to their mission and objectives. Our families expect more and the fees help us meet instructional expectations.
- 2. Does District 49 charge BLA fees for specific services?** Yes, District 49 charges BLA fees for various services provided by the district that is a percentage of each student attending the school.

**3. How are BLA's school finances and purchases monitored?**

- a. A finance committee with BLA board members provides oversight and guidance on all budget items.
- b. All school purchases must go through an approval process via Accel Schools and the Board of Directors exceeding certain dollar amounts.
- c. Every expense is part of our independent audit which is available on BLA's website.

**4. Are there differences between how public tax dollars are allocated for charter and neighborhood schools?**

Yes. Unlike neighborhood schools, charter schools must pay for their building, regular maintenance and all utilities. This is an operating expense that is unique to charters and takes up a portion of our operating budget. Salaries and benefits for staff use the largest portion of state funds allocated annually to BLA.

**5. Does BLA charge for Kindergarten tuition?** Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed [House Bill 19-1262](#) into law providing state funding for full-day kindergarten across the state.

**6. Is school lunch free this year?** YES! For the 21-22 school year, school lunch will be provided for each BLA student at no cost to our families.