BEAUFORT SECONDARY COLLEGE

School Levies and Charges

It is the school's responsibility to provide students with a standard (and high quality) education out of its budget. However there are three types of payments that can be requested of parents.

1. **Essential Education Items** - Things for which, under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006, schools can expect parents to pay for. Items specifically included here include text books, stationery, school uniforms, classroom materials where the student consumes or takes possession of finished articles, and the cost of excursions that are fundamental to the curriculum (including sport).

2. **Optional Extras** - items offered on a user-pays basis. Parents may choose whether their child has access to them. Included here are items such as student computer and internet use for recreational or non-curriculum purposes, school photos, materials where students have a choice of using a higher cost alternative (e.g. in Materials Technology) and the lease of musical instruments.

3. **Voluntary Levy** - where parents are invited to donate to the school for such things as sporting equipment for student use at lunchtime, lunchtime activities and facilities for common rooms and the student centres.

At Beaufort Secondary College, school fees are broken into the following categories:

a. "**Student Amenities Charge**" (currently $80 or $20 per term)

This will cover:

- Student computer use and printing for personal use
- Internet access for recreational or non-curriculum purposes, or in excess of the allocation determined to be necessary for our curriculum programs. Students using this service will have an increased allocation.
- Annual rent of larger locker (equivalent in size to three of the existing lockers), plus a combination lock for security. School magazine
- School magazine

The Student Amenities Charge comes under the category of an "optional extra". That is, parents will only be expected to pay if they want their child to receive the product or use the service.

b. **Voluntary Levy** ($40)

This will be used to fund facilities in, and maintenance of, the new Student Centre and VCE Common Rooms, as well as lunchtime activities and sporting equipment for student use at lunchtime and after school. It will also fund use of the Beaufort swimming pool for curriculum purposes. (This costs the school $10 per head of the student population).

As the title indicates, this levy is voluntary. However, please note that the standard of facilities made available to students will reflect the collection rate.
Other "optional" extras will include school photos, year level camps, excursions other than compulsory subject excursions, admittance to the school music concert and the hire of musical instruments. These will be charged per item used.

As far as "compulsory subject excursions" are concerned, the school policy is that teachers should carefully weigh up their educational value against cost. The aim should be to keep additional charges on parents to a minimum. Where they are deemed a necessary part of the curriculum, they should be advertised well in advance.