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From: DEECD Mail
Sent: Tuesday, 19 August 2008
To: DL All School Principals; DL All Assistant and Campus Principals; DL All Schools; DL All Corporate (new); DL All School Council Presidents; DL School Services Officer A-H; DL School Services Officer I-P; DL School Services Officer Q-Z; DL All Business Managers; DL TSP All Technicians; DL School Technicians; DL All HRMS Users; SDL OHS Reps; DL Learning Technology Co-ordinators; DL Allied Health Officers
Subject: **B029-2008** DEECD MAIL Bulletin for week ending 22 August 2008

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development – Victoria

For all schools, principals, school council presidents, business managers, SSO administrative staff, central and regional staff, parent club/association presidents

S300-2008 Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools

Main Points

- In October 2007 the Department released a revised *Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools* policy to provide greater clarity about the type of educational items or services parents may be requested to pay for under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*.
- Since then an audit has been undertaken to determine the level of compliance with the policy and to identify support required by schools.
- The audit found that schools required additional support and that this should be provided in a timely fashion.
- These findings have been considered and the Department's policy has been updated to include further support information, including a more extensive list of essential education items and optional extras, and a *parent information* template letter.
- This policy replaces the version released on 4 October 2007 (Circular S381-2007).

Actions Required

- Principals and school councils should familiarise themselves with the updated *Parent Payments in Victorian Government Schools* policy to ensure that their school-level parent payment policy is fully compliant with this Departmental policy.

Critical Dates

- The school-level policy needs to be developed and approved by school council and made available to parents at least 6 weeks prior to the end of the 2008 school year.

Additional Information

- The Department's policy is available at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/parentpayments.htm>

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