

Report

Re: ALE Department Report on Payment of AP Test Fees for Students

From: Michael Konrad, Interim Director of Advanced Learning Experiences & Chuck McCollum, Director of CTE

Date: May 27th 2015

It was originally proposed that funds be utilized to pay for the AP test fees for students taking the AP test. However, students who had difficulty paying their AP test fee were able to receive a reduction in their test fee down to \$20 through College Board. Feedback from counselors and test coordinators was that if fees were to be waived across the board it would result in more students signing up for the test but not actually arriving and taking them as this was the experience when such strategies were used previously.

Some site PTAs provided scholarships for students to waive even the \$20 fee including Tucson Magnet High School and University High School.

My recommendation for 2015-2016 would be to create a system whereby counselors at school sites could request waivers on a case by case basis to help students in need so that targeted students could be supported without creating a system whereby students might sign up for tests and then not attend.