

Dear Northwestern Parents and Guardians,

The Northwestern School Corporation is pleased to introduce a new program called ***e-Funds for Schools***. This program offers various options for parents/guardians to make payments online and is extremely user friendly. Not only will you have the ability to have various school fees and lunch payments electronically withdrawn from your checking account or charged to your school and you also have the flexibility to make a payment anytime through the school's website. The ***e-Funds for Schools*** service is offered to you by a third party service provider and they charge for processing your payment(s) similar to other online banking services. The district does not request or keep records of family checking or credit card information.

The ***e-Funds for Schools*** charges a nominal fee for their service. There is a \$0.50 transaction convenience fee for each electronic checking payment that you make. The system carries a Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) charge if the payment is "bad". For payments made by credit or debit card, there is a convenience fee of \$1.00 per transaction, plus 2.2% processing fee on the total payment. Currently, those fees are being paid by Northwestern Schools. When you setup your account, please review your options carefully.

You are in full control of your account and can make a payment at any time that is convenient for you. No payments will be allowed without your knowledge and authorization through the secure payment system. By providing your home and/or work email address, an email notification informing you of the student's name, purpose of the payment, and the amount of the item, will be sent to you each time that a payment is to be processed. The ***e-Funds for Schools*** site is secure and uses industry standard data encryption.

How does e-Funds for Schools work?

- Families setup and maintain their own logins, passwords, and payment preferences. Your account information is retained in a password-protected file.
- ***e-Funds for Schools*** will help eliminate last minute check writing hassles, improve efficiencies, and help cut costs for both you and the school district.
- Online payments will help eliminate the worry that your children could lose or forget the money intended for school items or that it might be spent on other non-school related items.
- Payments from a credit card or checking account may easily be setup.
- Parents/guardians may establish a reoccurring payment or may opt to make a one-time payment.
- The program offers various types of payment to families that include but are not limited to instructional materials, field trip fees, yearbook fees, graduation fees, and of course food service payments. The system may be expanded to include other fees as well.
- Your payment history for the year is available with a click of a mouse.

