



The Gow School

Dear Gow Families;

As the school year approaches, we are writing to inform you about student bookstore accounts. This letter will list items which are included in tuition and those items charged to students' bookstore accounts.

Goods and services included in tuition costs:

- Student meals on campus while school is in session.
- Transportation for students to and from the airport/train station/bus station for arrival from and departure for school breaks **within prescribed arrival/departure times**. Students arriving or departing *outside* of the prescribed times will use Airport Taxi Service at a cost of \$80.
- Transportation for students to athletic contests, activities on Saturday evenings and Sunday religious services.

School Bookstore Accounts

Students are required to have a *minimum* of \$2,500** (\$1,250 for day students) in their bookstore account by August 15th, 2020. Please submit payment via the Parent Portal at my.gow.org.

The cost of student purchases and expenses will be deducted from the student's bookstore account. We encourage students to use discretion when purchasing items at the store. Yearly expenditures can vary greatly depending on whether a student takes music lessons, receives speech services, sports played and extracurricular activities attended.

****PLEASE NOTE: We recommend an additional \$1,000 deposit be made to the student's bookstore account when signing up for music lessons and/or speech therapy.**

We ask that you replenish your child's bookstore account if the balance drops below \$300. An additional \$1,000.00 deposit is usually needed for the second semester. Bookstore balances can be checked on the parent portal. Allowances, activities, and bookstore purchases will be discontinued if the account balance falls below zero.



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The following goods and services are NOT included in tuition and are charged to Student Bookstore accounts :

- Textbooks and school supplies
- Art charges
- \$50.00 per semester for the use of on-campus washers and dryers (excluding 6th, 7th, and 8th graders). The washers and dryers do not require quarters. Students may wash as many loads as they wish.
- 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students do not wash their own laundry. Their clothes are laundered by Russo Cleaners located in East Aurora. They charge \$1.90 per pound.
- Dry cleaning for sport coats/blazers, etc.
- Students are strongly encouraged to have haircuts at home during breaks. If a student needs a haircut, the cost is \$15.00 or more.
- Medical prescriptions from local pharmacy
- Doctor and dentists' charges/co-pays/deductibles
- SAT/ACT Standardized Test Fees
- College test fees and College application fees
- Sports team photos
- Yearbook charge
- Graduation fee
- Athletic equipment
- Overnight trips
- Off-campus weekend activities (Movie tickets, admission costs, etc)
- Prom expenses
- Weekly allowance (parental discretion, average **\$20.00** per week)
- Music lessons
- Speech therapy
- Cost of lost library books
- Damage charges
- Lost fobs \$25.00
- Rekey charge for lost keys \$25.00

Math Calculator

All students in grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a math class, must have a **Texas Instrument TI-84 Graphing calculator**. Because it is a costly item, you may get the calculator at a better price online. We strongly recommend the student's name be put on the calculator.



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Dry Cleaning and Laundry

Russo Cleaners handles dry cleaning for the students. They pick up and deliver to the school on specific days. Dorm Parents will instruct students on how to use this service. Russo Cleaners also provides laundry service for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Students in 9th – 12th grades do their own laundry on campus with the machines provided. Parents are encouraged to teach their children how to do laundry before coming to school.

Weekly allowance

Weekly allowances are deducted from student bookstore accounts. If you wish your son/daughter to receive a weekly allowance please complete the form in the parent portal at my.gow.org; \$20 per week is average. If a student needs additional money, a parent must email bookstore@gow.org **by noon on Tuesday of that week. Allowances are given out on Thursday. Additional monies will not be given unless we have permission from a parent.** Please help your child monitor his/her spending habits.

Petty Cash for Extraordinary Purchases

Petty cash is cash that will be held in the Business Office Safe for your child to be available at the student's discretion for out of the ordinary purchases he/she may need to make. (Clothing, shoes, special outings, etc.) The recommended amount is \$100.00. Please specify amount on the online bookstore form. Depending on circumstances, we generally only release \$10 at a time.

Movie Tickets

Students attending movies on the weekend trips are given a discounted pre-purchased movie ticket which is charged to the student bookstore account.

Athletic & Ski Equipment

Some sports require students to have their own equipment. The school will make the arrangements for students to purchase the needed equipment. You will receive more information each season from the coaches, once students have signed up. Estimated equipment costs can be obtained from the Athletic Director. Please provide guidance to your son/daughter on choice of a sport if equipment costs are a factor.

Ski equipment may be either purchased or leased from a local ski shop, if your child does not have his/her own. **A parent's credit card will be required for charges at the local ski shop or sporting goods store.**

Sales Tax

New York State sales tax of 8.75% is charged on all items except clothing and footwear under \$110. Clothing and footwear purchases are taxed at 4.75% on individual items costing up to \$110. Clothing and footwear items costing \$110 and higher are taxed at 8.75%.



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Return of Textbooks

Used textbooks may be sold back to the bookstore at the end of the school year.

Bookstore statements will be available on the website via the parent portal. Any funds remaining in a student's account at the end of the school year will be held on account for returning students, unless a refund is requested. Balances for students not returning, will be refunded in July.

If you have any questions regarding the bookstore, please email bookstore@gow.org, or call Mrs. Bamann or Mrs. Fisher. Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to another successful school year!

Jennifer Bamann
716.687.2076

Kelli Fisher
716.687.2080