

221-AR DRESS AND GROOMING

A well groomed and neatly dressed student body sets the tone and atmosphere conducive to good order and learning. The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. Although the Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school, the Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools, affect the health and safety of others, or cause damage to school property.

I. General Guidelines

- A. The student should dress modestly and in a manner that is tasteful and respectful at all times.
- B. School officials may make judgments about proper grooming and attire, and may impose limitations on dress if the attire causes the disruption of the educational process or constitutes a health or safety hazard.
- C. Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean.
- D. School officials will not tolerate extremes in dress and grooming.
- E. Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing to earn credit for participating in physical education classes, shops, extracurricular activities, or other classes and situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.
- F. A faculty sponsor may set the standards of dress and grooming for students participating in school sponsored activities.
- G. Students may be required to change clothing or cover clothing if attire is unacceptable.
- H. Parents or guardians may request, in writing, exceptions to the specific guidelines of this policy in order to accommodate religious or moral objections.

II. Specific Guidelines

- A. The following attire is not appropriate for school:
 - 1. Bare backs, bare midriffs, tank tops, spaghetti strap blouses and dresses.
 - 2. Headgear or headwear of any type including but not limited to hats, caps, bandanas, visors, sweatbands, or sunglasses.
 - a. Students may be permitted to wear headwear for medical reasons or any other administrative-approved exception.
 - 3. Shorts/skirts which are shorter than fingertips when standing with arms at sides.
 - 4. Cut off or see-through blouses or shirts; shirts or blouses that are low-cut and too revealing.
 - 5. Spandex or skin-tight outfits of any type of material worn as outer garments.
 - 6. Pajamas or sleepwear, including bedroom slippers.

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7. Book bags and backpacks carried to class.
 8. Outerwear or overcoats worn during the school day.
 9. Clothing or articles that convey negative messages, symbols (crucifixes), logos or innuendos that promote obscenity, or believed to promote obscenity and/or gang affiliation (rosary beads, colors, etc.), profanity, violence, tobacco products, drugs, alcohol, racial or sexual harassment, or are sexually explicit.
 10. Wallet chains, sharp medallions, spiked or potentially dangerous jewelry and/or rings, chains which may pose a safety hazard.
 11. Excessively ripped or torn clothing, trousers worn below the waist.
 12. Exposed undergarments and/or undergarments worn as outerwear.
 13. Sweatbands or thick straps on arms and wrists.
 14. Shoes that are untied or that pose a safety hazard.
 15. Any apparel that is judged to be unsanitary or unhealthy.
- B. A student has the right to determine the length or style of his/her hair, including facial hair. However, where the length or style of hair is a potential health or safety hazard, or poses a disruption to the educational process, some type of alteration, head covering, or hair tie may be required.

III. Implementation

- A. The building principals are designated to implement all District Policies and Regulations and to monitor student dress and grooming in district buildings and school property.
- B. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program where there is evidence that grooming or attire constitutes a health or safety hazard.
- C. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program where there is evidence that the grooming or attire causes the disruption of the educational process.
- D. Implementation of these regulations shall impose only minimum necessary restriction on the exercise of the student's rights regarding appearance.
- E. Staff members should demonstrate by example positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

IV. Consequences

- A. Students who appear at school wearing inappropriate apparel will not be allowed to attend class until the necessary changes are made to meet the dress code requirements.
- B. Changes may include:
 1. Removing objectionable clothing or items.

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2. Wearing an article of clothing provided by the school.
 3. Contacting parents/guardians to obtain appropriate clothing.
- C. More than three (3) violations of the dress and grooming policy represent Level II misconduct as defined by the Student Discipline Policy, No. 218 and will result in an appropriate Level II Disciplinary Response.