

Administrative Regulation

Dress Standards

The Board of Education expects that students enrolled in district schools shall present themselves in a manner conducive to study and educational advancement. A student's dress should be neat and appropriate for the demands of the activities in which the student is participating. Parents and guardians should assist students in guiding the student in the selection and wear of appropriate school apparel.

The California Education Codes and the policy of the Board of Education of the Garden Grove Unified School District permit students the right to exercise free expression, except that expression shall be prohibited which is obscene, libelous or slanderous. Also prohibited shall be expressions which so incite students as to create a danger of the commission of unlawful acts, or the violation of school regulations, or the disruption of the orderly operation of the school. Each student's dress and personal appearance is, within certain limits, a matter of personal style and individual preference. However, decisions concerning appropriate school dress and personal appearance should occur in partnership with students, parents, and school to assure the greatest opportunities for student access.

The dress standards of students should:

- A. Cause neither actual distraction nor disturbance to a school activity.
- B. Create neither a health nor safety hazard to themselves or others.
- C. Ensure that all students are treated equitably without regard to gender, gender expression, gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.
- D. Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as chemistry/biology (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- E. Permit students to wear acceptable attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- F. Prevent students from wearing clothing with offensive images or language, including, but not specifically limited to, profanity, hate speech, and pornography.

The district and individual schools are responsible for ensuring that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student. Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress code at the beginning of the school year and whenever these standards are revised. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

5160.1 Administrative Regulation (Continued)

The dress standards that follow are intended to define appropriate school apparel and acceptable health, hygiene and safety. This list is not exhaustive, but is a guide to assist students in making informed and positive choices:

- A. Footwear shall be worn at all times on the campus. Reflecting a concern for safety, footwear should correspond with the demands and attributes of the activity in which the student participates.
- B. Apparel or accessories shall not contain any obscene or offensive logos, graphics, or hand-written wording depicting drugs, illicit substances, alcoholic beverages, sexually suggestive topics, or references to violence and/or weapons.
- C. Apparel, accessories, and head coverings, including hats and caps, shall not be permitted when such apparel is associated with or reflects gang affiliation or gang identity or when currently considered to be gang related by virtue of its colors, trademarks, or other design arrangement. The determination as to what meets this definition is made by school, local law enforcement and/or other community agencies.
- D. Clothing worn by students must be opaque and appropriately cover the student's body as follows:
 - Student clothing must cover undergarments, or where undergarments typically would be, at all times.
 - Clothing must cover all areas of the midriffs.
 - Clothing must not expose cleavage, buttocks, or genitals.
 - Clothing must not have holes or gauze/transparent fabric that exposes undergarments or skin that otherwise should not be exposed.
 - If translucent or see-through items are worn, an additional layer that is opaque must be worn. The items must cover undergarments and all private areas.
- E. Clothing worn by students will align with the instructional purpose and meet safety requirements:
 - Students may be required to wear additional safety attire when directed by an instructor to align with class standards (e.g., wood shop, science lab, physical education).
 - Students may be permitted to wear otherwise prohibited clothing (e.g., midriff bearing) when directed by an instructor to align with an activity (e.g., sport's uniforms, theater costumes).
- F. Hats and headwear are permitted when they align with the following standards:
 - Student's face must always be visible to staff.
 - Hats or headwear may not interfere with the sight of any students or staff.

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- During in-classroom instruction, a teacher may direct a student to remove headwear at any time *unless* the headwear is such that is a cultural item (e.g., yarmulkes, turbans, hijab). Teachers may also direct a student to a different area if the hat causes a visual obstruction to other students.
- G. All clothing and accessories are prohibited from:
- Advocating violence or referencing criminal activity (including, but not limited to, the use of drugs or alcohol);
 - Including pornography, or hate speech (as defined in law),
 - Including images or language that create a hostile or intimidating environment for any protected class; or
 - Including components of clothing that create a danger to health. (e.g., spikes, chains).
- All clothing and accessories are prohibited from causing a disruption to the educational environment.
- H. Clothing must be worn for the purpose it is intended.
- Students may not wear clothing in an unintended way. For example, flags may not be worn as clothing (clothing made from flag fabric is permitted). Skirts may not be worn as dresses.

Each school shall have the latitude to prohibit the wearing of any clothing, attire, apparel, or accessory which is hazardous to or disruptive of the learning environment. Each school principal, in cooperation with teachers, students, parents/guardians, may establish school rules governing student dress and personal appearance. Individual school rules shall be reviewed regularly.

Ref: EC Sections 35010, 35291; CCR, Title 5, Section 302

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