

Administrative Regulation

Dress Standards, K-12

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 assert a major responsibility for their student's appearance, not only in providing the clothing, but in guiding the student in the selection and wear of appropriate school apparel.

The dress standards of students in every case shall be neat and should:

- A. Cause neither actual distraction nor disturbance to a school activity.
- B. Create neither a health nor a safety hazard to themselves or others.
- C. Ensure that all students are treated equitably without regard to gender/gender identifications, 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 attire without fear of discipline or discrimination
- F. Prevent students from wearing clothing with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography

The school district and individual schools are responsible for seeing 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.

The dress standards that follow are intended to define appropriate school apparel and acceptable healthy, hygiene and safety:

- 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.

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- B. Apparel or accessories shall not contain any obscene or offensive logos, graphics, or hand-written wording depicting drugs, illicit substances, alcoholic beverages, or sexually suggestive topics.
- 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 by virtue of its colors, trademarks, or other design arrangement.
- D. Clothing worn by students will be opaque and appropriately cover the student's body
- 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
- 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
 - 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 seat 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, hate speech (as defined in law), or political slogans; or
 - Including images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment for any protected class
 - 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.

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The principal or the designee is responsible for deciding questions of appropriateness of student dress and grooming at a school site.

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

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