

DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students ~~to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes~~ *clothing* that ~~are~~ *is* suitable for the school activities in which they participated. *Students shall not wear clothing that presents* ~~Students' dress and grooming must not present~~ a health or safety hazard or *causes* a *substantial disruption to* ~~distraction which would interfere with the educational process.~~

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 – Dress and Grooming)
(cf. 5145.2 – ~~Freedom of Speech/Expression; Publications Code~~)

District and school rules pertaining to student attire shall be included in student handbooks, may be posted in school offices and classrooms, and may be periodically reviewed with all students as necessary.

Students shall not be prohibited from dressing in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression or with their religious or cultural observance.

(cf. 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

In addition, the dress code shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture or protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

The principal or designee is authorized to enforce this policy and shall inform any student who does not reasonably conform to the dress code. The dress code shall not be enforced in a manner that discriminates against a particular viewpoint or results in a disproportionate application of the dress code based on students' gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, household income, or body type or size.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 0415 - Equity)
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

School administrators, teachers, and other staff shall be notified of appropriate and equitable enforcement of the dress code.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

When practical, students shall not be directed to correct a dress code violation during instructional time or in front of other students.

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Repeated violations or refusal to comply with the district's dress code may result in disciplinary action.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

~~Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress and grooming standards 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.~~

~~(cf. 5144 - Discipline)~~

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a *proposed* dress code *shall be presented* may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board, *which* for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the *school environment*. *The dress code policy may be included in the school's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 35183)* school's students.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

When determining specific items of clothing that may be defined as gang apparel, the school shall ensure that the determination is free from bias based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or other protected characteristics.

Uniforms

The Board may approved a school-initiated dress code requiring students at the school to wear a school uniform whenever the Board determines that such a dress code will promote student achievement, a positive school climate, and/or student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against, or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. (Education Code 35183)

~~In order to promote and protect student health and safety in the school environment and to support a more intensive focus on the instructional program and eliminate unnecessary distractions during the school day, all elementary schools shall implement a mandatory dress code requiring students to wear a school wide uniform. Such a dress code shall be included as part of the school safety plan.~~

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~~The District shall establish procedures whereby parent/guardians may choose not to have their child comply with the school wide uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. Students who do not comply with the uniform policy are nonetheless subject to Board Policy 5132 regarding dress code, grooming and gang violence.~~

~~Principals and other school staff shall not be expected to monitor individual students' participation in the uniform program.~~

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms. (Education Code 35183)

*Legal References:*EDUCATION CODE*212.1 Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity**220 Nondiscrimination**32281 School safety plans**35183 School dress codes; uniforms**35183.5 Sun protective clothing**34294.1 School safety plans**48907 Student exercise of free expression**49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*302 Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school*COURT DECISIONS*Jacobs v. Clark County School District (2008) 26 F. 3d 419**Harper v. Poway Unified School District (2006) 445 App. 3d 166**Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al, (C.D. Cal. 1993) 827 F. Supp. 1459**Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education, (1992) 2 Cal 4th 251**Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562**Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899**Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) 393 U.S. 503**Policy amended: May 27, 2020*

Policy amended: March 5, 2009

Policy amended: November 4, 2004

Policy adopted: June 7, 2001

Students

AR 5132 (a)

DRESS AND GROOMING

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee ~~shall~~ *may* establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with *law, Board policy, and administrative* ~~district policy and~~ regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

(cf. 0420 – School Plans/Site Councils)

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Shoes must be worn at all times. At the elementary level sandals must have heel straps and thongs or backless shoes or sandals are not acceptable.
2. Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles, etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are ~~erude~~, vulgar, *lewd, obscene*, profane or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol or tobacco company advertising, *illegal activity*, promotions and likenesses, which advocate racial, ethnic or religious prejudice or gang affiliation as defined by the school safety committee and included in the school safety plan.
3. Jewelry which creates a health and safety hazard is not permitted.
4. Only hats with school insignias or logos may be worn outdoors or indoors as approved by staff. Other head coverings may be worn for medical or religious reasons on an individual basis.
5. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through or fish-net fabrics, halter tops, off-the-shoulder or low-cut tops, bare *abdomens* ~~midriffs~~ and skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are prohibited.
6. Gym shorts may not be worn in classes other than physical education or as directed by staff.
7. Hair shall not be groomed in such a way as to be a distraction which interferes with the educational process.

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health conditions, or other circumstances deemed necessary by the principal or designee. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs to special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular activities.

~~Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes.~~

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(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066)

(cf. 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)

~~The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.~~

Gang-Related Apparel

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define “gang-related apparel” and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 35294.1)

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.

As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update definitions of gang-related apparel.

Uniforms

The Principal of each elementary school shall ensure the school wide uniform policy is implemented within the following parameters:

1. The Principal, staff and parents/guardians of each elementary school shall jointly select the uniform to be worn including types of colors of the uniform and the requirements for jackets and other outer garments.
2. A plan to assist economically disadvantaged students with the purchase of the

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uniform shall be developed and communicated to parents/guardians.

3. Notice to parents/guardians that they may choose not to have their child comply with the school wide uniform and that students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide shall be given. Parents/guardians shall also be notified that their child is nonetheless required to adhere to Board Policy 5132 regarding dress code, grooming and gang violence.
4. Notice to parents/guardians that the policy does not preclude students that participate in a nationally recognized youth organization from wearing organization uniforms on days that the organization has a scheduled meeting or activity shall be given.
5. The method(s) for communicating the above information to the parents/guardians shall be identified.
6. The above information shall be reviewed annually as part of the school safety plan and then forwarded to the Superintendent or designee.

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)

Regulation amended: May 27, 2020

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