

Tough dress code designed to help students

Dress Code – Board Policy JCDB

Pull up those pants. Take off those caps and sunglasses. Get rid of those too-revealing tops.

The Board of Trustees' tough policy on student dress codes is designed to help students realize how appearance affects how others see them -- and how people see our schools.

"Everyone -- from the person who decides if you get that job you've always wanted to the person who decides if you get a loan for your dream house -- is influenced by how you look," superintendent Jonathan Phipps said.

"Students' appearance can also influence their attitudes toward learning and behaving. The board believes it has a duty to set high standards for our students to insure their success -- during school and in life after school."

The policy sets specific standards for student dress and requires principals to see that those standards are maintained.

"The board wants expectations for student dress to be consistent from school to school at each level," Phipps said. "This tougher policy gives our school administrators and faculties the support they need to enforce a consistent dress code."

Contact your school for its specific dress code.

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of a student rests with that student and his parents/guardians. The student and his parents/guardians have the right to determine how the student dresses, providing the dress and grooming

- are not destructive to school property,
- comply with health and safety requirements,
- don't interfere with the educational process or disrupt a recognized school function and
- reflect respect for the student, the school and the community.

The following items are minimum requirements for student dress code regulations established by schools:

- Clothing and/or hair should not be so extreme or inappropriate to the school setting as to disrupt the education process. For that reason, clothing deemed distracting, revealing, overly suggestive or otherwise disruptive will not be permitted.
- Wearing accessories or clothing that could pose a safety threat to the student or others is not allowed.
- Hats and sunglasses may not be worn in the building.

- Attire must not evidence membership or affiliation with a "gang" in any negative sense of the term.
- Appropriate, safe shoes must be worn at all times.
- Attire must not be immodest, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, indecent or offensive.
- Clothing that inappropriately exposes body parts is not permitted. Students will not expose undergarments.
- Pants must be worn at the natural waistline and undergarments aren't to be visible. Pants and slacks must not bag, sag or drag.
- No clothing, jewelry, or tattoos are permitted that display profanity, suggestive phrases, or advertisements for -- or messages or pictures depicting or suggesting -- alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sex or any other inappropriate or illegal behavior.

The administration has the responsibility of ensuring that student dress meets the criteria above and may make reasonable rules to restrict or govern student dress.

Adopted March 16, 2010