

I. STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

The District is responsible for the academic and life skills development of each child enrolled within its schools. To assure the accomplishment of this task, the learning environment must be maintained to encourage learning. The District's dress code is established to create a positive learning environment, reinforce good grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, teach respect for authority, and develop an awareness of appropriate attire.

Accordingly, students are expected to dress and groom in a manner that promotes a quality educational experience for all, coming to school dressed for success.

II. GENERAL GUIDELINES

Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that shall not be disruptive nor a safety hazard to themselves or others. The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal's judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations. Grooming includes, but is not limited to, color of hair and appropriate hairstyles. Facial hair must also be well maintained and not disrupt or interfere with normal school operations.

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the guidelines set out in this policy and with the student dress codes as outlined in the student handbooks.

III. SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

A. The following decorations and/or designs (including tattoos and/or brands, either temporary or permanent*) imprinted upon or attached to the body, clothing, jewelry, hats, bags, backpacks, scarves, bandanas, or other personal items are prohibited:

- Symbols, mottoes, pictures, emblems, words or acronyms that convey crude, vulgar, profane, obscene, libelous, denigrating, violent, death-oriented, gang-related, sexually explicit, or sexually suggestive messages.
- Symbols, mottoes, pictures, emblems, words or acronyms advertising or depicting the use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, including the depiction of any illegal activities.
- Symbols, mottoes, pictures, emblems, words or acronyms identifying a student as a member of a secret or overtly antisocial group or gang or that identifies a student as a member of an organization that professes violence or hatred toward one's fellow man. Likewise, such membership being identified by virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute of anything imprinted, attached, or worn is prohibited.

*Visible and permanent tattoos/brands incompatible with the standards set forth herein shall be covered to prevent their display.

- B. Clothing, jewelry, and accessories that may be used as a weapon are not allowed. Spiked jewelry, spiked belts, collars, cuffs, wallet chains longer than 12", and other chains shall not be allowed.**
- C. The length of any shorts, skirts, or dresses may be no shorter than three inches above the top of the kneecap. Any slits in garments are subject to the same limitations, being measured to the tops of the slits.**
- D. Clothing such as shirts, blouses, and dresses are required to have sleeves. Clothing must be modest; clothing that is see-through, too tight, or too short shall not be worn. Clothing with low-cut necklines (either in front or back), clothing that exposes cleavage, and clothing that exposes the midriff shall not be permitted.**
- E. Earrings and other piercings/jewelry that are disruptive to the classroom environment or that are inappropriate or cause safety concerns are not allowed. For safety reasons, body piercings involving the mouth, tongue, and lips are not permitted. Unauthorized piercings shall not be maintained by spacers or covered with bandages or other temporary coverings. Gauging is not permitted. Mouth "grillz" are not permitted.**
- F. A team or group uniform that does not adhere to the guidelines of this policy may not be worn during any instructional portion of the school day.**
- G. Baggy clothing or clothes that sag shall not be allowed.**
- H. Form-fitting garments such as Spandex, bicycle shorts, tights or leggings, and swimwear may only be worn when covered by another layer of clothing that meets dress code.**
- I. Sleepwear shall not be allowed.**
- J. Clothing with unsewn hems, excessively long pants or skirts (dragging the floor), and clothing with ragged tears or holes that reveal undergarments or flesh, shall not be worn. Any clothing worn in such a way that underwear is visible shall not be permitted.**
- K. Footwear must be worn at all times. Slippers, soccer sandals, shower sandals, and similar footwear are not permitted. Skate shoes and steel-toed shoes are not permitted.**
- L. Belts must be threaded through belt loops and may not hang. All straps or suspenders will be fastened and may not hang.**
- M. Hats, hoods, caps, nets, scarves, bandanas, sweatbands, curlers, sunglasses, and all other attire for the head are not to be worn inside the school buildings.**
- N. Dress and grooming standards for specific student activities (e.g., physical education, shop, laboratories) must meet the safety requirements set forth for each specific activity.**
- O. The school administration may disallow any other types of attire that may disrupt the educational environment or jeopardize a safe and orderly environment for the students and school staff.**

IV. DRESS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The principal at any campus has the authority to allow all or part of the student body of the campus to vary from the standard mode of dress and establish a particular mode of attire for special occasion days or for particular school-sponsored or school-related activities. The principal must maintain a safe learning environment.

V. NONDISCRIMINATION

District personnel shall not discriminate against any student whose parents choose for bona fide religious, cultural, or medical reasons to request an exception to the standard dress policy.

VI. ENFORCEMENT

Given that all staff members have a responsibility to serve as positive adult role models for students, they are expected to exhibit personal dress and grooming practices that are reflective of the high standards associated with the profession, thereby enhancing their ability to model and enforce the student dress code policy. It is the responsibility of all personnel to administer the dress and grooming guidelines.

The principal at each campus shall identify consequences for those who fail to adhere to this policy. Those consequences shall be disseminated as a part of the school's discipline matrix and as part of the school's parent/student handbook(s).