

Purpose

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. The use of standardized dress is established to improve students' self-esteem, reduce ethnic/racial tension, bridge socioeconomic differences among students, and promote positive behavior, thereby enhancing school safety and improving the learning environment.

General Guidelines

Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or 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.

The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings on clothing that:

1. Are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene.
2. Advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited under FNCF (LEGAL).

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the general guidelines set out above and with the student dress code outlined in the student handbook.

Extracurricular Activities

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate dress and grooming standards established for such an activity may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor, and may be subject to other disciplinary action, as specified in the Student Code of Conduct. [See FO series]

Standardized Dress

This policy pertains to all grade levels in the District. Standardized dress shall be defined in each campus student handbook.

Implementation

Before requiring students to comply with standardized dress rules, the campus principal, in consultation with the campus site-based decision-making committee, shall request Board approval to institute a standardized dress program. The request must be approved by the Board at least 90 calendar days prior to the implementation date of the standardized dress requirement on the campus. The request presented to the Board shall:

1. Include a detailed and specific description of the dress options, with enough variety of options so that the dress requirements would not constitute a uniform.
2. Include a plan for providing standardized dress for economically disadvantaged students.
3. Be consistent with the provisions of this dress code policy.
4. Specify disciplinary consequences for students who violate the standardized dress requirements.

Funding

District funds shall not be used to purchase standardized dress items without specific approval by the Board. The funding source for providing standardized dress items for economically disadvantaged students may include one or more of the following:

- Donations, gifts, and grants;
- Funds generated at the campus level by students, staff, and the PTO;
- Vendor rebates;
- Corporate sponsorships; and
- Any other source approved by the Board.

Any funds donated for the purpose of purchasing standardized dress items shall be designated and used only for that purpose.

Violations

This policy is not intended to prohibit any student who is not in standardized dress from receiving the education to which he or she is entitled. Prior to initiating any disciplinary action against a student not complying with a standardized dress requirement, a school administrator or counselor shall have a conference with the parent or guardian to solicit parental cooperation and support. If the principal determines that a student's grooming violates the dress code, the student shall be given the opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student shall be disciplined according to the student handbook dress code violations.

Dress for Special Occasions

The principal of the campus for which standardized dress is required may allow all students or designated groups of students to vary from the requirements for special occasion days or specific school-sponsored or school-related activities (i.e., spirit shirts, dress shirts and ties for male athletes, organization shirts, and physical education classes).