

Policy 5132: Dress And Grooming

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/05/2008 | **Last Revised Date:** 06/20/2023 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 06/20/2023

The Governing Board values the identity of all students and believes that appropriate student clothing contributes to a positive and healthy learning environment. Students are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day and for school sponsored events. Student clothing should be suitable for school activities while being inclusive of a diverse range of identities.

The primary responsibility for a student's clothing resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s). The school is responsible for ensuring that student clothing does not interfere with the health or safety of students or staff and that it does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating environment. The school must also ensure that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or discrimination against any student because of their race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, household income, body type, or weight.

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.

Dress code policies shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture and protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

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 students and staff as necessary.

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement, school staff shall implement the dress code policy consistently in accordance with the requirements below:

- Students shall not be required to kneel, bend over, or raise their arms to check clothing fit
- The width of straps, the length of shorts, or other worn articles of clothing shall not be measured
- Students shall not be called out for suspected dress code violations in front of other students
- Students shall not be accused of "distracting" others with their body, clothing, or appearance
- Student dress code enforcement shall not result in unnecessary barriers to school attendance
- The school shall not have discretion to vary the requirements of the dress code in ways that lead to discrimination of any student because of their race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, household income, body type, or weight.

Students found to be in violation of the dress code policy will be required to do one of the following:

1. Put on their own alternative clothing, if available at school
2. Wear temporary school clothing
3. Ask a parent/guardian to bring alternative clothing for the student

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

Gang Related Apparel

When there is evidence of a gang presence that threatens to disrupt the school, the principal or designee may consult with the local law enforcement agency to establish a reasonable addendum to the dress code to prohibit gang-related apparel. Upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school environment, the proposed addendum shall be approved by the superintendent or designee prior to enforcement. (Education Code 35183)

Uniforms

In accordance with Education Code 35183, schools may initiate a uniform dress code policy, if it is determined 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.

The superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are made available to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms as needed.

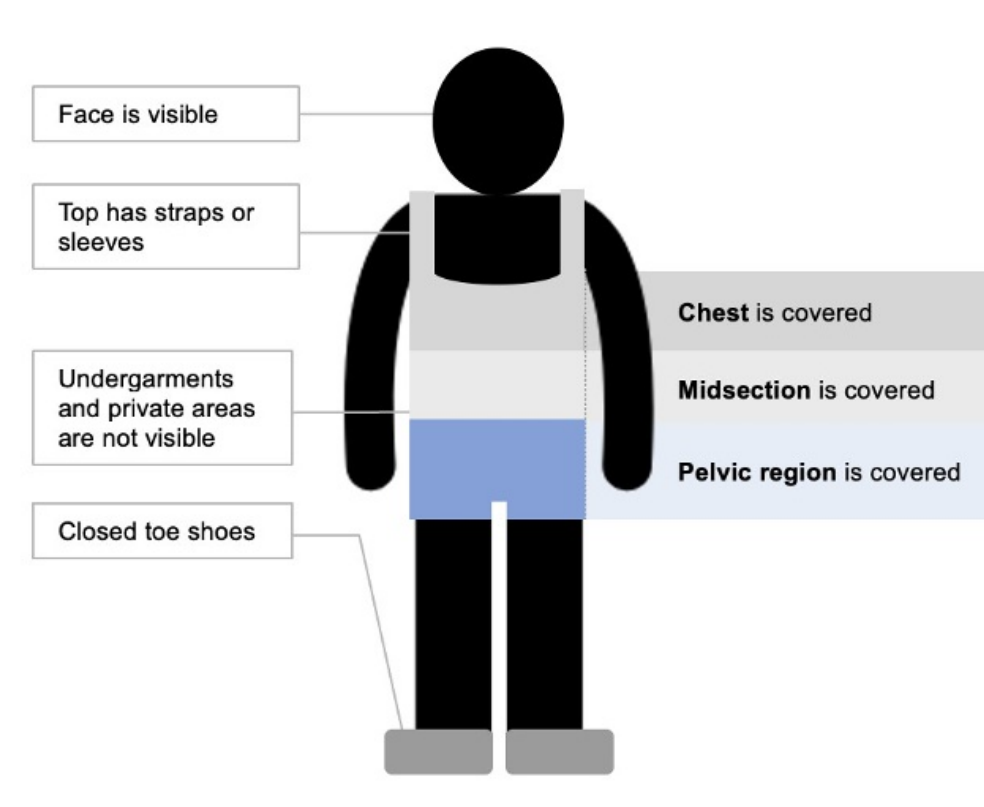
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The following dress code shall apply to all students and school activities.

1. As illustrated in the graphic below, students must wear clothing that fully covers the chest (at approximately armpit level), midsection (with arms down), and pelvic region. With the exception of shoulder straps, undergarments must not be visible. Private areas must not be visible. Tops must have shoulder straps or sleeves. Closed-toed shoes must be worn at all times.



2. See-through and mesh clothing must have appropriate coverage underneath or on top and meet the minimum requirements listed above.
3. Headgear must not be worn in a manner that hides a student's face, unless for religious, health, or other reasons approved by school administration. (Examples: hats, hoodies, sunglasses, masks, etc.)
4. Clothing and accessories that may endanger student or staff safety is not permitted. (Examples: wallet chains, spiked wristbands, etc.)
5. Swimsuits are not permitted.
6. Clothing and personal items (such as jewelry, backpacks, water bottles, etc.) shall not:
 - a. Depict, imply, advertise or advocate illegal, violent or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or any other controlled substance;
 - b. Depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts;
 - c. Display or imply vulgar, discriminatory or obscene language or images;
 - d. State, imply or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health

condition, or other circumstances deemed necessary by school administration and approved by the superintendent or designee. In addition, school administration may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular activities.

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)

Uniforms

In accordance with Education Code 35183, schools are permitted to implement a uniform policy provided that the principal, staff, and parents/guardians jointly select the uniform to be worn. The uniform policy must also be reconsidered and reviewed by the principal, staff, and parents/guardians at least once every five years.

- At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented or revised, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians.
 - Parents/guardians shall be informed of their right to have their child exempted from the uniform policy and instead abide by the above dress code.
 - Students shall not be penalized academically or otherwise discriminated against nor denied attendance to school if the student has been exempted from the school uniform policy.
 - The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.
 - 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.
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