
CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENTS

Rights and Responsibilities

DRESS AND GROOMING

This administrative regulation specifies standards of dress and grooming promoting a safe school setting conducive to a positive learning environment consistent with Board Policy No. 5132.

A. Apparel

All clothing shall be neat, clean, and acceptable in repair and appearance and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for school.

1. Articles of clothing which display gang symbols, profanity or products or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs or sex; materially interfere with schoolwork; or create disorder or disrupt the educational process are not allowed.
2. Any clothing or apparel that a student or group of students wear to identify themselves for the purpose of harassing, threatening, or intimidating others will not be allowed.
3. Extreme fashion that draws undue attention to the student will not be allowed. This includes any clothing and extreme make-up that disrupts the learning environment.
4. Jackets and other apparel depicting professional sports teams shall not be worn. Jackets or other apparel depicting college or university teams are acceptable unless such team designations are associated with gangs or otherwise conflict with the standards for acceptable apparel.
5. Underwear-type sleeveless shirts, athletic tank tops, beach wear, swim wear, halter-tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, bare midriffs or chests, see-through or fishnet outfits, or off the shoulder and low-cut tops are not appropriate or acceptable. Clothing that exposes bare midriffs or cleavage is prohibited at any time during school or school-sponsored activities or events. Shoulder straps on tops and other clothing must be a minimum of two inches (2") wide.
6. Dresses and skirts are to be worn no shorter than five inches (5") above the top of the kneecap, but no shorter than mid-thigh.
7. Shorts are to have an inseam of at least five inches (5"). Shorts are to be stitched evenly around, and if frayed, must be stitched to avoid further fraying. Holes revealing skin or undergarments are not allowed. Spandex or Lycra shorts are not permissible. Shorts worn during physical education may not be worn during regular class time at secondary sites.
8. Straps on shoes and clothing must be fastened at all times.

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9. Leggings and jeggings are permitted but cannot be see-through or have mesh or ruching above the knee. Tops worn with leggings and jeggings must not expose bare midriffs at any time during school or school-sponsored activities or events.
10. Shoes must be worn by all students. No hard-toed or steel-toed shoes/boots will be allowed. No high top, laced up, combat, or military style boots will be allowed. Shoes or sandals without heel straps that do not present a safety concern may be worn by students in grades 7 through 12, except during physical education classes, recess, while participating in school-related athletic competitions, events or activities, or while participating in other activities where safety is a concern. Backless shoes commonly known as “flip-flops,” “beach shoes,” “soccer sandals,” “zories,” and/or thongs are inappropriate and will not be allowed. See Exhibit No. 5132(2).
11. For safety reasons, students in grades pre-school through 6 are not allowed to wear flip-flops, shoes, or sandals without a heel strap. See Exhibit No. 5132(2).
12. No slippers will be allowed.
13. Excessively baggy pants are not allowed. Pants cannot exceed five inches (5”) when measured out from the kneecap of the straightened leg. Pants must fit and be worn at the natural waist. The bottom of the pant leg may not drag on the ground. Pant hems must not be stapled or pinned.
14. Sleepwear is not permissible.
15. Oversized shirts that present a safety concern or reflect gang style are not acceptable.
16. If hats (including visors) are worn, students are only permitted to wear their specific school or high school area related hats. All hats must be worn facing forward at all times. All other hats are unacceptable. Hats and/or caps and/or sunglasses must be removed in the classrooms or offices. Specific clothing and hats determined by the District or school site to be gang-related or inappropriate apparel are not acceptable. Articles of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats and sunglasses, may be used outdoors. Subject to these provisions, sun-protective clothing, headwear, other than caps or hats, will not be allowed at school. School sites may add other restrictions on the type of hats to be worn.
17. Frayed clothing is permissible so long as frays are stitched to prohibit further fraying.
18. Distressing is allowable. Holes on clothing must be patched from behind so that undergarments or bare skin are not exposed.
19. Clothes shall be worn as intended and be sufficient to conceal undergarments, which shall be worn and covered at all times.

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20. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane, or sexually suggestive; shall not bear drug, alcohol, or tobacco company advertising, promotions, or likenesses; shall not promote violence, illegal activity, or relate to gang affiliation or activity; and shall not advocate discrimination or harassment of race, religion, or sexual orientation.
21. Pro logos on school materials of any kind are not acceptable (binders, folders, backpacks, pens, pencils).

B. Grooming

1. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed.
2. Hair, beard, or mustache styles which disrupt the learning environment are not acceptable, e.g., unusual designs, colors, symbols, messages, mohawks, Faux-Hawks, or unusual razor cuts. Complete razor shaving of the head is allowed.
3. Bangs or other hairstyles must not obstruct nor interfere with vision.
4. For those courses where long hair may pose a safety risk, such as where mechanical equipment with moving parts are used or where there is an open flame, long hair must be in a protective head covering, such as a hair net or cap, or hair must be securely bound behind the head, consistent with rules established by the instructor.
5. Tattoos, permanent or temporary, must be covered at all times.

C. Jewelry

Piercing jewelry is acceptable in the ears only. Piercing jewelry that is intended to alter the natural shape of the ear is prohibited. Other body piercing jewelry (e.g., that for piercings in the eyebrows, nose, lips, or tongue) is not acceptable. Jewelry, including piercing jewelry that disrupts the learning environment, is not allowed.

D. Exemptions

1. Religious beliefs, bona fide medical reasons, or other good cause based on legal requirements, when verified, may be grounds for an exemption to a specific portion of Board Policy No. 5132.
2. A petition for an exemption from enforcement of a specified portion of Board Policy No. 5132 (see Exhibit No. 5132(1) – Petition for Waiver of Dress and Grooming Compliance) may be submitted to the Student Services and School Attendance office. An appeal of a denial of any exemption shall be submitted in writing to the Associate Superintendent of School Leadership within 30 calendar days of the denial.

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- a. In the event that an appeal does not raise allegations within the District's uniform complaint procedures (UCP) in Board Policy No. 1312.3, then, within 30 calendar days of receipt of the appeal, the Associate Superintendent of School Leadership or designee shall gather facts and make a written determination, which shall be provided to the complainant. Gathering of facts shall include but may not be limited to meeting with the complainant, if deemed appropriate to do so. Any decision of the Associate Superintendent of School Leadership shall be final.
- b. In the event that the allegations raised in the appeal are determined to fall within the District's UCP in Board Policy No. 1312.3, the District will use the District's UCP process to investigate and respond to the appeal rather than the above appeal process. Consistent with law and Board Policy and Administrative Regulation No. 1312.3, any appeal of that decision may be appealed to the California Department of Education.

E. School Uniform Policy

1. The decision to pursue a school uniform policy must be initiated by parents and approved by the school S.A.R.T. committee and the site principal.
2. A school uniform committee will develop a survey to be sent to all parents regarding their position on a school uniform policy by January 15 of the school year prior to the implementation of a school uniform policy. Prior to the distribution of the survey, the committee must sponsor at least one parent forum or meeting open to all parents for the purpose of information and input.
3. For a school site to further consider a school uniform, at least a majority of the surveys distributed must be returned and a majority of the surveys returned must support a uniform policy. These majorities are considered minimums and school sites have the discretion to establish more stringent standards of returns and support.
4. The Board must be notified by February 1 of the school year prior to the implementation of a school uniform policy.
5. The school site shall notify all parents or guardians no less than six months prior to the time the uniform policy is implemented.
6. Should a school adopt a uniform policy, resources shall be available to assist economically disadvantaged students and a procedure for parents/guardians to opt out of the policy shall be in place.

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