

Students - Activities

Dress and Grooming

In cooperation with teachers, students, and parents/guardians, the principal or designee may establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

A. Apparel

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Students must dress safely and appropriately for educational activities in which they will participate so as not to endanger their or other's health, safety, or welfare.
2. 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.
3. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which is vulgar, lewd, obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive or which promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other illegal activity.
4. 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.
5. 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
6. Clothes must be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
7. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. Any footwear which creates a safety hazard is prohibited.
8. Attire that may be used as a weapon (e.g. steel-toed boots, chains, items with spikes or studs, etc.) may not be worn.
9. In general, hats, caps, and other types of head coverings shall not be worn inside buildings.

Students - Activities

Dress and Grooming

10. Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

B. Gang-Related Apparel

1. At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)
2. Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update definitions of gang-related apparel.

C. Exemption to Policy

1. The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the principal or designee.
2. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and co-curricular activities.
3. 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)

D. Uniforms

1. The decision to pursue a mandatory school uniform policy must be initiated by the parents/guardians and approved by the School Site Council and the principal.
2. A school uniform committee will develop a survey to be sent to all parents/guardians as to their position on the possibility of a school uniform policy

Students - Activities

Dress and Grooming

several months prior to the implementation of a school uniform policy. Prior to the distribution of the survey, the committee must sponsor at least one parent/guardian forum meeting open to all parents for the purpose of information and input.

3. In order for a school site to further consider school uniforms, at least 75 percent of the families at the school must support a uniform policy. This number is considered minimum and school sites have the discretion to establish more stringent standards of returns and support.
4. The request from a school for mandatory school uniform policy must be submitted to the Board of Education at least seven months prior to its implementation.
5. At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)
6. In schools that require a schoolwide uniform, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians of the school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)
7. Chosen uniforms shall allow students to dress in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression or with their religious or cultural observance.
8. Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.
9. The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.
10. 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. (Education Code 35183)

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