

DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Trustees believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. It is expected that all students shall maintain a neat and orderly appearance. Students' clothing or appearance must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process.

(cf. 4119.22 - Dress and Grooming)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression: Publications Code)

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress and grooming standards at the beginning of the school year and whenever these standards are revised. Guidelines for defining gang-related styles are determined in consultation with law enforcement agencies. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Guidelines for appropriate dress at all regular school activities are listed in AR 5132(a).

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

The Board believes that the primary responsibility for student's clothing, appearance and grooming rests with the parents. Parents have an obligation , not only to provide clothing, but to guide the students in selection and proper wearing of apparel and determination of its suitability.

Voluntary Uniforms Policy

It is the policy of the Board to maintain an educational environment which promotes learning and protects the health, safety and welfare of all students and school personnel.

The objective of this policy is to support any school interested in implementing a voluntary uniform program in order to maintain a healthful, safe, morally constructive environment conducive to learning.

The following standards are adopted in order to meet the intent of the policy:

1. A school may survey its community to determine if a majority of parents who return the survey are interested in participating in a voluntary uniform program.
2. A voluntary uniform program must adhere to guidelines outlined in Administrative Regulation 5132, Dress and Grooming.

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The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35183 *School dress codes; uniforms*

35294.1 *School safety plans*

48907 *Student exercise of free expression*

49066 *Grades; effect of physical education class apparel*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

302 *Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school*

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education, (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 251

Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al, 827 F.Supp. 1459 (C.D. Cal. 1993)

DRESS AND GROOMING

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

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities and will be reviewed annually by the principal. Due to changing trends in gang attire, clothing, jewelry, accessories and grooming styles, restrictions may change when necessary.

These guidelines include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Clothing/jewelry/hairstyles/wigs are not permitted that are unsafe or result in a disruption of the orderly operation of the school and/or school activities.
2. Hairnets, bandannas, or other such grooming aids are not acceptable. Hair styles, cuts, wigs or color that disrupt the instructional program are not allowed. Colored or dyed hair must be a natural color. (Exception: Annual Halloween/Fall Festival school costume events.)
3. Clothing is not permitted that:
 - contain words that are suggestive or have double meanings of lewdness, obscenity, violence, vulgarity, or advertise services or products not permitted to minors
 - contain symbols, pictures and/or slogans oriented toward degrading culture, race, gender, religion, or ethnic values or glorifying sex, or inappropriate social behavior
4. Shoes must be worn at all times. Flip-flops and slippers are not permitted. Soles are not to exceed one inch in height; heels are not to exceed 1-1/2 inches in height. Shoes must have a back strap.
5. The following are considered inappropriate school attire:
 - a. Bare midriffs, brief garments such as jogging shorts, exercise tights, halter tops, tube tops, net tops, tank tops with shoulder straps less than 3” wide, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and back), cut up clothing, strapless and see-through garments.
 - b. Visible undergarments
 - c. No shirt
 - d. Swimsuits

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- e. Apparel that reveal buttocks
- f. Apparel that can be used as a weapon
- g. Baggy or oversized clothing capable of concealing a weapon
- h. Oversized pants which measure 6 or more inches from the leg to the outer seam or touch the ground.
- i. Pants and shorts that do not properly fit the student's waist size
- j. Frayed cuffs
- k. Overalls with straps unfastened
- l. Jewelry, accessories, wallets or key chains which cause a distraction or present a safety hazard
- m. Skirts which are shorter than four inches above the knee.
- n. Bandanas or hair nets

Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes.

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)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

Sun-Protective Clothing and Sunscreen

While outdoors at school or at any school-sponsored program, students shall be permitted to wear articles of clothing, including hats, which specifically serve to protect from the sun. (Education Code 35183.5) Hats are not to be worn inside the classroom.

To serve as protection from the sun, students shall be allowed to use sunscreen during the school day. Students bringing sunscreen to school shall not be required to provide a doctor's note or prescription. (Education Code 35183.5)

- a. Students are prohibited from applying sunscreen in the classroom
- b. School personnel shall not assist students in applying sunscreen

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Voluntary Uniform Program

The principal shall:

1. Receive a request from the parent community for a survey relating to a voluntary uniform program
2. Develop, with the parent group, a comprehensive survey describing the intent of the program and types of uniforms to be considered.
 - a. School spirit clothing
 - b. Color coordinated outfits
 - White and Black
 - White and Blue
 - c. Traditional private school type uniforms
3. Survey all parents in the school community. Implementation of a voluntary uniform program will be based on a majority of parents who return the surveys indicating interest in participating.
4. Form a committee to determine which type uniform will be worn.
5. Communicate to the parent community via newsletter, by the end of the school year, that a voluntary uniform program will begin in the fall.
6. Notify the Superintendent of the voluntary uniform program.

The Superintendent shall:

1. Notify the Board of Trustees as to which schools participate in a voluntary uniform program.

No student shall be denied the opportunity to participate in the Voluntary Uniform Program due to financial hardship. Uniformships may be arranged with the principal for any student. Names of these students will be kept confidential. Parents may submit written requests to the principal.

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. (Ed Code 35183)