

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

1041.1 Freedom of Speech & Assembly

Symbolic Expression – Dress Code and Appearance

Students have the right to dress in a manner which expresses an ethnic, religious, or political point of view. Students also have a responsibility to dress and act in a manner which is appropriate for school.

Students' school attire should adhere to accepted standards of decency, should not pose a threat to public or personal health and safety, or be disruptive or distracting to classroom activity or pupil behavior. Apparel with prohibited slogans or designs printed on them will not be allowed. Whenever there is a disagreement between the school and the student about appearance, admission to class will not be permitted until the problem has been resolved with the student's parent or guardian.

Life is full of choices. Students have the right to choose both their actions and their own style of dress every day. They also have a responsibility to make good choices. The school staff has the responsibility to make professional judgments regarding the appropriateness of those actions and dress based upon standards stated above. A student's manner of dress would be considered inappropriate if it distracts either other students or the teacher from educational activities in the classroom or disrupts the positive, safe climate on campus.

The following shall not be worn at school:

- ✓ *Head gear of any type.* No head gear may be worn from the time a student enters school until the time a student leaves school. This applies to headgear of any kind, including but not limited to: hats, bandanas, scarves, sweatbands, do-rags, etc. Outside hats may be put on in the school lobby as the student leaves the building. Elementary hat policy during cold weather may differ to ensure student safety.
- ✓ *Articles of clothing, accessories, or footwear that advertise, depict, or condone the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence, inappropriate language, or sexual behavior/innuendo, purposeful harm to oneself, suicide, gang membership, or gang behavior.*
- ✓ *Articles of clothing, accessories, or footwear that signify gang affiliation.* Known styles of gang-related dress, as verified by local authorities, shall not be worn, possessed, or displayed at school, or at any school sponsored events. This may include pants that sag (pants must be worn at the waist even if a shirt covers the waistline), a single raised pant leg, bandanas, or similar looking items worn as an accessory; colors, symbols or numbers representing or having special significance within gang culture; sports clothing of specific teams; beads and necklaces; belt buckles with gang initials; gang themed t-shirts with gang photos, prison scenes, graffiti, or slogans. Display of body tattoos which are gang-related are also prohibited and must be covered during school hours and at school events. Should other possible displays or styles of gang-related dress come to the attention of school officials, local authorities will verify it, unless it becomes a disruption beforehand.



ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

1041.1 Freedom of Speech & Assembly (Continued)

Shall Not Be Worn At School (continued...)

- ✓ *Articles of clothing that are provocative or revealing in nature, including those constructed from spandex or similar form-clinging fabric; leggings or tights without a shirt, tunic, skirt, or shorts of suitable length over them; spaghetti straps; low necklines; clothing that reveals underwear; bare midriffs; bare shoulders, including racer backs; bare backs; low-cut tops or dresses; halter tops, etc. All cleavage must be completely covered. Undergarments of males and females may not be exposed, even when a student leans over or sits down. All tops must overlap or be completely tucked into pants, shorts or skirts to avoid any bare midriff or lower back.*
- ✓ *Skirts or dresses that are shorter than 6 inches above the knee, and shorts that are shorter than mid-thigh, whether sitting, standing, or bending over. Private body parts shall be covered at all times. No undergarments or parts thereof may be exposed at any time.*
- ✓ *Articles of clothing that are considered lounge-wear, pajamas, etc.*
- ✓ *Articles of clothing or accessories that disparage or humiliate any group, or individual for any reason, including but not limited to national origin, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.*
- ✓ *Items of jewelry or accessories which pose a hazard, wallet chains, spike collars or necklaces, spiked bracelets, safety pin jewelry, choke chains, bicycle chains, earrings connected to a nose ring via a chain, etc.*
- ✓ *Sunglasses.*
- ✓ *Tattoos of a design or in a location disruptive to school order.*

Consequences for initial violation of the dress code will be 1) a requirement for the student to wear appropriate garments, footwear, or accessories, and 2) parental contact. Repeated infractions may be considered insubordination resulting in appropriate disciplinary consequences. (Cross reference School Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1046.5)

Exceptions to these rules for religious, medical, or cultural reasons will be decided on a case-by-case basis by the school administration.

The building principal may approve exceptions to these rules for special event days.

Approved: March 30, 1993

Revised: July 28, 2004

Revised: July 24, 2007

Revised: March 10, 2014

