

5511 DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education recognizes each pupil's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of the pupil's personal style and individual preferences. The Board will impose its judgment on pupils and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) only when a pupil's dress and grooming affect the educational program of the schools.

Pupils may not wear clothing or engage in grooming practices that present a health or safety hazard to the individual pupil or to others; materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program; cause excessive wear or damage to school property; or prevent the pupil from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Suggested Dress Guidelines

Clothing should not be too tight or revealing. Appearance should not be bizarre, obscene, distracting or disruptive to the educational process.

Examples of inappropriate dress are:

1. Clothing that reflects illegal activities;
2. Clothing that is sexually suggestive, profane or obscene;
3. Clothing or articles that are not safe;
4. Coats or outer jackets in class;
5. Clothing that is dirty or torn;
6. Bare feet;
7. Short shorts and mini skirts;
8. Skirts, shorts and pants that come below the waistline;
9. Hats or caps in the building; and
10. Wearing of undergarments as outer garments.

The dress policy and guidelines as stated above apply to all school-sponsored activities, i.e., school fun nights, field trips and graduation dance, etc.

The Board of Education prohibits pupils from wearing, while on school property, any type of clothing, apparel or accessory which indicates that the pupil has membership in, or affiliation with, any gang associated with criminal activities. The local law enforcement agency will advise the Board, upon request, of gangs which are associated with criminal activities.

The Building Principal or designee shall determine whether the dress or grooming of pupils comes within these prohibitions.

Staff members shall demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

The Superintendent shall, on consultation with staff members, pupils, and parent(s) or legal guardian(s), prepare a dress code that imposes only minimum and necessary limitations on a pupil's taste and individuality.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, 18A:11-7, 18A:11-8, 18A:11-9

Adopted: 23 September 2008