Policy 5132: Dress And Grooming

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 10/01/1996 | **Last Revised Date:** 10/01/2019 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 10/01/2019

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to wear clothing that is suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students shall not wear clothing that presents a health or safety hazard or causes a substantial disruption to the educational program.

District and school rules pertaining to student attire shall be included in student handbooks, may be posted in school offices and classrooms, and may be periodically reviewed with all students as necessary.

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.

In addition, the dress code shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture and protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

The principal or designee is authorized to enforce this policy and shall inform any student who does not reasonably conform to the dress code. The dress code shall not be enforced in a manner that discriminates against a particular viewpoint or results in a disproportionate application of the dress code based on students' gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, household income, or body type or size.

School administrators, teachers, and other staff shall be notified of appropriate and equitable enforcement of the dress code.

When practical, students shall not be directed to correct a dress code violation during instructional time or in front of other students.

Repeated violations or refusal to comply with the district's dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff, and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a proposed dress code shall be presented to the Board, which shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school environment. The dress code policy may be included in the school's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 35183)

When determining specific items of clothing that may be defined as gang apparel, the school shall ensure that the determination is free from bias based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or other protected characteristics.

Uniforms

The Board may approve a school-initiated dress code requiring students at the school to wear a school uniform whenever the Board determines that such a dress code will promote student achievement, a positive school climate, and/or student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against, or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. (Education Code 35183)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms. (Education Code 35183)

Policy Reference Disclaimer:
These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 212.1	Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	School safety plans
Ed. Code 35183	School dress code; uniforms
Ed. Code 35183.5	Sun-protective clothing
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place, and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 49066	Grades; effect of physical education class apparel
Management Resources	**Description**
Court Decision	Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 251
Court Decision	Harper v. Poway Unified School District (2006) 445 App. 3d 166
Court Decision	Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562
Court Decision	Jacobs v. Clark County School District (2008) 26 F. 3d 419
Court Decision	Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al (C.D. Cal. 1993) 827 F.Supp. 1459
Court Decision	Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) 393 U.S. 503
Court Decision	Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services

Cross References

Code	Description
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities

5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5131	Conduct
5136	Gangs
5136	Gangs
5141.7	Sun Safety
5144	Discipline
5144	Discipline
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E(1)	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.7	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
5145.7	Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment
6141.2	Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs
6141.2	Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs
6173	Education For Homeless Children
6173	Education For Homeless Children
6173-E(1)	Education For Homeless Children
6173-E(2)	Education For Homeless Children
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6173.3	Education For Juvenile Court School Students
6175	Migrant Education Program
6175	Migrant Education Program