

DRESS AND GROOMING (Continued)

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. Noting that when they are neatly attired and take pride in their appearance, there is less misbehavior and a better learning atmosphere is created. 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. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction, which would interfere with the educational process.

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. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

According to the Administrative Code, Title 5, Section 302

“A pupil who goes to school without proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness or neatness of dress, may be sent home to be properly prepared for school, or shall be required to prepare himself for the school room before entering.”

In addition, the Governing Board requires that a student's clothing shall not be unsafe either for the student or those around the student (e.g., long, loose sleeves or hair while the student is operating power machinery or working with open fire), nor be disruptive of school operations and the educational process in general, nor be contrary to law.

No restrictions on freedom of dress and adornment shall be imposed by the district which may violate a student's civil rights, which impose particular codes of morality of religious tenets, which attempt to dictate style or taste, or which do not fall within the direct or implied powers of the Governing Board.

The superintendent is directed to establish any needed regulations consistent with this policy through cooperative planning with staff, students, and parents.

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school, under district guidelines, 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 dress code may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the schools students.

DRESS AND GROOMING (Continued)

School Uniforms

In order to promote student safety and discourage theft, peer rivalry and/or gang activity, the principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code requiring students to wear uniforms. Such a dress code may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school’s students.

If a school’s plan to require uniforms is adopted, 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.

Eighth Grade Graduation Dress and Grooming

The following guidelines shall be observed in determining appropriate school attire for the eighth grade graduation ceremony:

- 1- Regular school dress code will also be in effect throughout the graduation.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE:

35183	School dress codes; uniforms
32281	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)
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