

DRESS AND GROOMING

Appropriate Dress and Grooming

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.

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)

Oxnard Union High School District's student dress code supports equitable educational access and is written so that it does not reinforce stereotypes nor facilitate marginalization or discrimination oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, socio-economic status, or body type/size. It is designed to create an environment for students to feel comfortable with themselves while learning in a safe and respectful academic environment.

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)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 0415 - Equity)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

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.

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.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

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.

Families (students and parents/guardians) should be notified of the dress code annually, or whenever the dress code is revised, including the consequences for violating the dress code. Consequences may never exceed District guidelines and must be enforced in a consistent manner.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

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)

Articles of sun-protective clothing shall be permissible and may include but not be limited to hats. Hats shall be those which correspond with the school's colors and name and approved by school site administration.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

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.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 212.1 Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity
- 220 Nondiscrimination
- 32281 School safety plans
- 35183 School dress codes; uniforms
- 35183.5 Sun-protective clothing
- 48907 Student exercise of free expression
- 49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

COURT DECISIONS

Jacobs v. Clark County School District (2008) 26 F. 3d 419

Harper v. Poway Unified School District (2006) 445 App. 3d 166

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

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

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562

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

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) 393 U.S. 503