

Students

Dress and Grooming

The development of individual pride and self-esteem is an integral part of education. Dress and grooming play an important role in this development.

The Board encourages students to dress in clothing appropriate to the school situation.

Restrictions on freedom of student appearance may be applied whenever the dress or grooming:

1. interferes with the learning process
2. is disruptive
3. is unsafe
4. is contrary to law.

In addition, any school may choose to adopt the use of school uniforms.

The Board directs the administration to establish specific regulations consistent with this policy that promote cooperative planning with staff, parents and students.

Enforcement of dress and grooming rules adopted in accordance with this policy is the responsibility of each building principal. In a case where a school has adopted the use of uniforms, according to this policy and corresponding regulations, such use shall be voluntary.

Policy Adopted:

September 6, 1988

Readopted:

June 27, 2000

Amended

June 25, 2011

Students

Student Dress

The Board of Education encourages students to dress in a manner that reflects pride in and respect for themselves, their school, and their community. To promote a positive, safe and non-disruptive learning environment, proper attire should be worn. Therefore, the following attire is prohibited from being worn in the Stamford Public Schools during the academic school day:

1. Attire or accessories which portray disruptive, obscene writing or pictures;
2. Attire or accessories which depict logos or emblems that encourage the use of drugs, tobacco products, or alcoholic beverages;
3. Shirts and/or blouses that reveal the abdomen, chest, breasts, or undergarments;
4. See-through clothing;
5. Shorts, miniskirts, or pants that reveal the upper thigh or undergarments;
6. Other attire or accessories which, in the opinion of the principal, are not in good taste or depict vulgar, illegal, racial, or sexist viewpoints.
7. Head coverings of any kind including, but not limited to scarves, bandannas, masks, kerchiefs, athletic headbands, hoods, etc. which prevent the easy identification of students; except that hats and caps may be worn at the discretion of high school teachers and administrators and provided that headwear for bona fide religious reasons may be worn.
8. Footwear which damages floors or is a safety hazard;
9. Sunglasses (unless required by doctor's order);
10. "Name" or other oversized metal belt buckles;
11. Spiked or studded bracelets, oversized or multi-finger rings, belts or any other article or attire with spikes or studs attached;
12. Possession of any electronic device without prior approval of the building principal.

The decision to pursue the use of school uniforms must be approved by the school site principal. The adoption of school uniforms is allowed under the following guidelines:

1. A school uniform committee consisting of families, teachers, administrators and students - where age appropriate - will develop a survey to be sent to all families to inquire about their

position on school uniforms. This survey shall be sent by February 15th of the school year prior to the implementation of school uniforms.

2. Prior to the distribution of the survey, the committee must sponsor at least one family forum or meeting open to all families for the purpose of information and input.
3. The school committee must determine ways for families to purchase clothes at the lowest cost possible.
4. In order for a school site to further consider the use of uniforms; all student families shall receive a school uniform survey. A minimum of 80% of the surveys must be returned and at least 80% of the returned surveys must support the use of uniforms.
5. The Board of Education must be notified by April 15th of the school year prior to the implementation of school uniforms.
6. If, after following the above steps, a school determines that it will implement school uniforms, by April 30th of the school year prior to implementation, the Principal shall notify all parents / guardians of the decision and their rights under policy and statute.

Regulation Adopted:

September 26, 1988

Amended

October 10, 1995

Readopted:

June 27, 2000

February 25, 2011