Board Policy S-5:
Student Dress Code

REFERENCES
S-5: Administrative Procedures, Student Dress Code
Utah Code Ann. §53G-7-801 et seq., School Uniforms

THE POLICY

The Salt Lake City School District Board of Education recognizes that there are benefits to student dress codes including their ability to positively impact student learning, behavior, health, and safety. While the board requires that each school adopt a student dress code, the dress code cannot be written in a manner that reinforces stereotypes or reinforces or increases the marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size. Student dress codes must reflect the board’s goal of inspiring students to learn while leaving primary decisions about a students’ clothing and style to students and their parents. Our expectation is that parents and students share the responsibility for knowing the student dress code and for complying during school hours and school activities, and school employees are responsible for enforcing the dress code in a consistent, fair, and non-discriminatory manner.

The board delegates to each school community council the authority and responsibility to adopt and annually review their school’s student dress code, which may include a recommendation to adopt an appropriate school uniform/standardized dress code. The board neither encourages nor discourages the adoption of a school uniform or standardized dress code that requires distinctive clothing styles and/or colors to be worn by students.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe learning environment for all students, free from unnecessary distractions, while respecting an individual’s freedom of expression, health needs, and religious beliefs related to dress.

The district has set forth its specific processes for implementing this board policy through the accompanying administrative procedures.