



Victor Valley Union High School District

Dress Code

2022/2023

The primary goal of the Victor Valley Union High School District is to promote academic achievement. Any apparel which draws undue attention to the wearer or detracts from the educational process shall be considered inappropriate. In order to provide a safe, nurturing environment where students can learn, free from distractions, threats, intimidation, or harmful influence, each school site shall develop a dress code policy.

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with district policy and regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed (cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes.

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066) (cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day (Education Code 35183.5)

School site administration will consider student safety and promote academic achievement when enforcing dress code policies. All students shall abide by the following:

1. Garments shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
2. Hair and physical appearance shall be clean and neatly groomed. Aerosol cans of any kind are not permitted at school, i.e., hair color, hair spray. No excessive makeup is allowed.
3. Shoes must be worn at all times. For safety purposes, no open toed shoes, no heel over 2 inches, no slippers or house shoes and sandals must be held in place with heel strap. Steel-toed shoes and cleats are not permitted.
4. Lettering or printing will be allowed on shirts, sweatshirts, and other apparel as long as it is acceptable for school attire. Crude or vulgar printing or pictures depicting tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, gang-related names or symbols, or those that are sexually suggestive are not allowed. This district reserves the right to declare unacceptable any item of clothing, printing, or accessory depicting any logo that has been identified to be gang related.
5. Pant size must be appropriate. The fullness must not interfere with the normal school activities. If the student removes the belts, pants must not fall more than two inches below the hip bone. The crotch should not drop lower than the fingertips of the extended hand. The length of the pants should not extend past the heel of the shoe. When side seams are pulled out straight and then are crossed to the front, the edge of the pants should not cross the midpoint of the leg.
6. All clothing shall be within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for school. Garments shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
7. Dress length shall be within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for school. Dress length shall not be shorter than mid-thigh. Garments shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
8. No garment may be worn that is cut-off, ragged or torn.
9. No "see-through" or "fishnet" type of blouse or shirt may be worn. Students must wear shirts at all times. No muscle shirts, undershirts, or tank type undergarments are permitted.
10. No gang-related apparel (as determined by district guidelines).
11. Oversized clothing of any type of clothing of an inappropriate length is not acceptable. Clothing must be worn right side out and have appropriate hems, exhibit no slits, tears, or holes, and must be in good condition.
12. Belts and belt buckles must be plain, unadorned and of an appropriate size for the student.



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Wearing of Shorts

Students may be allowed to wear Bermuda shorts, walking shorts, or shorts of this type within the following guidelines:

1. Shorts must be hemmed and straight legged.
2. The length of the shorts must be within the bounds of decency and in good taste as appropriate for school. The shorts length shall not be shorter than the end of the extended fingertips.
3. Short shorts are not to be worn at school.

Shorts that do not meet these criteria are not allowed. Tops worn with shorts must adhere to the guidelines previously stated.

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff and parents/guardians at each individual school participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)

Students wearing gang attire become targets for violence even though they are not gang members. In addition, the baggy, oversized clothing now identified as gang related, presents a safety hazard since it allows students to more readily conceal dangerous objects such as knives, and other weapons or provide hiding places for drugs and drug paraphernalia.

Accordingly, the following types of clothing have been identified as unacceptable dress:

- Clothing, jewelry, and personal items that a student has including notebooks, folders, book covers, magazines, drawings, pictures, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles, backpacks, or any other item that disrupts the instructional process.
- Hats other than unaltered school approved hats (properly worn).
- Oversized clothing such as shorts, pants, coats, etc. Pants or shorts must fit at the waist.
- Items that promote hate, intolerance or violence.
- Unsafe jewelry and accessories, including but not limited to wallet chains, belts hanging from the waist, and belt buckles.
- Visible undergarments
- Clothing with profanity, that is too tight, revealing or sexually provocative
- Clothing with pictures, insignia or brand names for controlled substances, tobacco or alcohol
- Bandanas, do-rags, or head gear that prevents clear view of the head or face
- Unsafe footwear including house slippers. Additional footwear requirements may be imposed on students in specific classes such as: physical education, science and shop
- Raiders and Kings clothing, "LA" and "Skin" labels athletic jerseys and any additional articles of clothing or accessories identified by the VVUHSD administration or local law enforcement as being gang or hate group related will be forbidden on campus or any other school function or activity including sporting events
- Gloves may be worn during inclement weather only. No single glove is to be worn at any time. No leather type gloves such as baseball gloves are to be worn at school

Colors

Students shall not wear clothing or apparel identified by school personnel as "colors." The term "colors" is defined as a display by the wearing or placement of apparel by a group of students, or an individual student, which would signify the membership or intent of membership in a student group known to advocate or participate in disruptive or illegal behavior.

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.

In order to refrain from giving gangs publicity, any gang graffiti shall be quickly removed, washed down, or painted over as soon as discovered.

In schools where a school-wide uniform is required, the principal, staff and parents/guardians of the individual school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)



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Uniforms

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted. For students enrolled in the district in the first semester or quarter of the school year (which commences July 1), parents must notify the district in writing of their desire to exempt their child from the uniform policy no more than 10 days after the first instructional day of the school year or they shall be deemed to have waived any objection to the requirement for that entire school year (July 1 - June 30). Parents enrolling their child after commencement of classes for that school year, shall be advised of the school uniform requirement upon enrollment and shall notify the district in writing of their election to exempt their child from the policy within 10 days of the time of enrollment, or shall similarly be deemed to have waived any objection to the requirement for that entire school year (July 1 - June 30).

The principal or designee shall also repeat this notification at the end of the school year so that parents/guardians are reminded before school clothes are likely to be purchased.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a method for recycling or exchanging uniforms as students grow out of them.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)