

STUDENTS

Student Dress

It is the goal of the Kennewick School District to ensure that students are safe, known, and valued and to establish and maintain a quality learning environment for all students and staff. We expect all students to dress in a manner that provides for adequate safety while on any school campus or at school sponsored events. Further, we hope to instill the understanding of, and adherence to, appropriate dress for a work environment as we prepare students for their future career.

Students who are wearing clothing that is disruptive to the learning environment or hampers the safety of themselves or others as determined by the school will be asked to change clothing and may be subject to school discipline should they refuse to do so. These guidelines are not intended to be all-inclusive. The principal has the authority to determine if clothing is disruptive to learning or impacts student safety. The principal, in connection with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress of students who participate in the activity if the principal reasonably believes that the student's dress will interfere with or adversely affect the purpose, direction or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals.

A student's personal dress shall not:

1. Lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, or detract from school activities.
2. Create a health or other hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others.
3. Create an atmosphere in which a student, staff, or other person's well-being is hindered by undue pressure, intimidation, overt gesture, or threat of violence
4. Imply gang membership or affiliation by written communication, marks, drawing, painting, design, or emblem upon any school or personal property or one's person.
5. Prevent, interfere with, or adversely affect the purpose, direction, or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals.

School uniforms (cheer, dance team, school sponsored athletic jerseys) may be worn in school. Students may be required to wear uniforms or safety equipment/clothing in certain courses.

To maintain adherence to the student dress policy, students may not wear clothing that reveals the back, midriff, chest, buttocks, or undergarments. Prohibited clothing includes but is not limited to the following:

- Sheer tops
- Mesh tops
- Tops with overly large openings at the neck or arms

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- Halter-tops
- Tube tops
- Swim tops and bottoms
- Clothing or accessories with offensive pictures, symbols, or sayings. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Demeaning statements
 - Violent statements
 - Sexual statements
 - Racist statements
 - Gang affiliated statements and symbols.
- Clothing that advertises or promotes tobacco (including electronic delivery devices), alcohol, marijuana, or other drugs
- Jewelry or accessories that could be used to cause harm or injury.

Students are to use good judgement and not wear any clothing that may violate the dress code.

Policies regarding head coverings such as hats, hoods etc. are at the discretion of the individual school building. Students will not be prohibited from wearing head coverings for religious or cultural reasons.

If the student's dress is objectionable under these provisions, the principal/designee shall request the student to make appropriate corrections. Staff are expected to communicate dress code violations to students in a discrete manner that maintains student privacy and dignity. Students should report any concerns to the principal/designee. If the student refuses to make the appropriate corrections, the principal/designee shall notify the parent/guardian and request assistance in guiding the student to make the necessary correction. If both the student and parent/guardian refuse, the principal/designee shall take appropriate corrective action. Students may be suspended if circumstances so warrant, and students who violate provisions of the dress code relating to extracurricular activities may be removed or excluded from the extracurricular activity for such period as the principal/designee may determine. All students shall be accorded due process safeguards before any corrective action may be taken.

Legal References

[RCW 28A.320.140 Schools with Special standards – Dress codes](#)
[WAC 392-400 Student Discipline](#)

Cross References

[3220 - Freedom of Expression](#)

Revised: August 25, 2004
Revised: July 16, 2014
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