

STUDENT DRESS: 3224

Preserving an environment conducive to learning world class skills, assuring the safety and well-being of all students, and promoting an atmosphere appropriate for the serious work of learning are primary concerns of the District. To address these concerns individual schools and alternative programs are to adopt, publish, and implement a student dress code. Each school or alternative program shall obtain student, staff, and parental input prior to developing and implementing its student dress code or when considering changes to it.

Students in the Federal Way Public Schools are expected to dress in a manner that reflects pride and respect for themselves and their schools and is appropriate for the serious work of learning. It is generally expected that student dress shall be clean and appropriate for the activity in which the student is engaged.

Federal Way Vision of Excellence and Equity:

The District Vision of Excellence and Equity affirms that scholars should be seen, heard, valued, and celebrated for who they are. Additionally, scholars should be socially and emotionally safe at school in the educational environment, in the school and classroom, and during school activities.

As such, the District affirms the right of students to:

- Express themselves through clothing and attire
- Celebrate pride in their identity through clothing, hair, grooming, etc.

Student dress may only be regulated when there is a reasonable expectation that:

- A. A health or safety hazard is presented by the student's dress or appearance including possible membership in groups that promote hate or violence; or
- B. Damage to school property shall result from the student's dress; or
- C. A material and substantial disruption of the educational process will result from the student's dress or appearance.

For the purpose of this policy, a material and substantial disruption of the educational process may be found to exist when a student's conduct is inconsistent with any part of the educational mission of the school district. Prohibited conduct includes the use or promotion of obscene, lewd, racist, violent, sexual, drug, alcohol, or tobacco-related messages.

A school's dress code may include the requirement that students wear uniforms and/or identification badges. If students are required to wear uniforms, schools having this requirement will accommodate students so that the uniform requirement is not an unfair barrier to school attendance and participation.

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All staff shall be responsible for consistently and equitably enforcing their school's student dress code. Students whose manner of dress violates the school's or alternative program's dress code shall be asked to make appropriate corrections. Students who fail to comply shall be subject to discipline. Parents shall be notified.

The Superintendent/designee shall establish procedures providing guidance to students and staff regarding appropriate student dress in school or while engaging in extracurricular activities.

Cross References: Administrative Policy – 3220 Freedom of Expression

Legal References:	RCW 28A.320.140	Schools with Special Standards—Dress codes
	WAC 392-400-215	Student Rights
	WAC 392-400-225	School district rules defining misconduct— Distribution of rules