LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Policy 5132

Students

Dress and Grooming

The Board of Education believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. In addition, the Board of Education supports schools in their efforts to improve the health, safety, and security of their campuses. It is recognized that in order to promote the most productive learning environment and student safety, as well as discourage theft, peer rivalry and/or gang activity, a school site may wish to establish a reasonable dress code requiring students to wear uniforms.

Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day.

A school site may adopt a school uniform policy with two-thirds support of the families that have a child/children in attendance at that respective school, provided that more than 50% of the families participate in the vote regarding the uniform policy. The Superintendent shall establish a Rule by which schools shall account for this support and which provides guidance for the implementation, as well as rescission, of a school uniform program.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall establish procedures whereby parents/ guardians may choose to have their child(ren) exempted from an adopted school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against or denied attendance to school if their parent/guardian selects to exempt their participation, nor when students must wear, on selected days, the uniforms of recognized youth organizations, clubs or school athletic programs.

The Superintendent, or school site designee, shall ensure that resources and a process are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms.

The Board of Education shall approve a school site's adopted school uniform policy at least seven (7) months prior to its implementation in determining that the policy is necessary for the health and safety of the school environment. The school community must be notified of the adopted policy at least six (6) months prior to being implemented.

School uniform site adopted policies shall not conflict with the specifications articulated in existing Board Policy 5136.

Legal References

EDUCATION CODE
32282 School safety plans
35183 School dress codes; uniforms
35183.5 Sun-protective clothing
48907 Student exercise of free expression
49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
302 Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school
COURT DECISIONS
Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al, (C.D. Cal. 1993)
Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education, (1922) 2 Cal. 4th 251
Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

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