

## VOLUNTARY SCHOOL UNIFORMS REGULATION

The East Ramapo Central School District permits the initiation of a voluntary school uniform practice for any individual school under the following conditions and provisions:

- A. Parents who wish to establish a voluntary school uniform practice for their children's school shall first obtain a copy of the Board of Education policy and then meet with the principal of the school involved.
- B. Upon the principal's approval, these parents shall describe the initial proposal for a school uniform practice in an informational letter to the families of all students attending the school. After review by the principal (and approval as to form), the informational letter shall be distributed by the school and must address the following:
  - 1. The voluntary nature of a local uniform practice.
  - 2. Reasons for supporting such a practice.
  - 3. Establishment of a coordinating committee composed of parents, students, and school staff members to evaluate uniform styles, determine costs, and propose procedures for local implementation.
  - 4. Announcement of the date, time, and place of an open information meeting to discuss the proposed practice.
- C. Any group of parents opposing such a practice may also present a letter stating their reasons for opposition. This letter shall be distributed by the school to the families of all students after review by the principal (and approval as to form). Whenever practical, any such letter should be distributed with the initial proposal.
- D. The school shall schedule an open information meeting for parents and staff members at which the pros and cons of the issue and implementation procedures shall be discussed. The principal shall preside at that meeting. Additional meetings may be scheduled. If there is sufficient interest in pursuing a school uniform policy, the method of selecting parents, students, and staff members to serve on the coordinating committee shall be determined at the meeting and the members selected. All meetings of the coordinating committee shall be open to the public.
- E. Following the information meeting(s), the coordinating committee shall circulate petitions seeking support for the proposed voluntary uniform practice. These petitions shall state that the practice shall be voluntary, that equity issues shall be addressed, and that the coordinating committee shall recommend the style of uniform, the cost, and the implementation procedures to be followed.

- F. If the petitions are endorsed by at least 75 percent of the families having students who attend the school, the coordinating committee shall present its recommendations and the petitions to the principal for endorsement. Upon endorsement, the principal shall forward the coordinating committee's recommendations and the petitions to the appropriate division assistant superintendent.
- G. The division assistant superintendent shall assure that the petitions are valid and complete and that all requirements of Board of Education policy have been met. If the petitions are in order and the process has been followed, the division assistant superintendent shall forward the petitions to the Superintendent of Schools.
- H. The Superintendent of Schools and the Board President shall arrange to place the school's proposal on a regular meeting agenda, where the Board will officially endorse the proposal.
- I. The clerk of the Board of Education shall notify the school of the Board of Education's decision.
- J. If the school's proposal is endorsed by the Board of Education, the coordinating committee shall schedule, within a reasonable period of time, an open information meeting for all families with students who attend the school to describe the program and discuss its implementation. This information shall also be distributed in writing to all families having children who attend the schools.