### **AR JICA-R Student Dress Code**

#### Issued 6/21

Students have the responsibility and are expected to dress in an appropriate manner while on school district property, on a school bus or other school-sponsored transportation, when representing the school or attending school-sponsored activities.

Students are prohibited from wearing:

- clothing, jewelry, and/or accessories that present a reasonable threat or hazard to the safety of others in a school environment, e.g. sharp jewelry, chains, etc.
- clothing, jewelry, and/or accessories that have slogans, comments, or designs that are obscene, lewd, or vulgar; are directed towards, or intended to harm, harass, threaten, intimidate, or demean individual groups or individuals on the basis of race, religion, sex, color, disability, or national origin
- clothing, jewelry, and/or accessories that contain advertisements, symbols, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that are: sexually suggestive, gang, drug, weapon, alcohol-related, obscene, profane, promote hate, or are disruptive or potentially disruptive to the learning environment.
- ill-fitting clothing (i.e. clothing that is too tight or too loose) clothing that is worn in such a manner as to expose undergarments (i.e. boxer shorts, bras, underwear)
- clothing that inappropriately bares or exposes private parts of a body, including, but not limited to the stomach areas above mid-thigh, buttocks, back, and breasts (i.e. cut-off t-shirts, half shirts, midriffs, tops with spaghetti straps, tube tops, see through or revealing tops)
- sunglasses or hats
- sleepwear or lounge pants

Additionally, clothing should be worn as designed. All pants must be worn at the natural waist. A belt must be worn if pants or shorts do not stay at the natural waist.

Shorts, skirts, or skorts are acceptable if they are modest in length. Outer garments that are worn over tights or leggings are to follow the same length expectations as shorts or skirts. Tailored pants or jeans are acceptable if they do not have holes/rips above what is considered to be modest in length. Modest in length is defined as tip of longest finger with arms by sides with fingers fully extended.

Acceptable footwear is required to be worn at all times unless otherwise directed by school staff. Bedroom slippers are considered unacceptable school attire unless otherwise directed by school staff.

Any attire/paraphernalia/symbol that signifies gang affiliation will not be allowed. Congregation of students wearing like colors may be perceived as gang affiliated behavior, resulting in the request to discontinue the offensive behavior and/or dress.

## **Disciplinary Action**

Disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

#### **Uniforms**

In 3 year intervals, schools will poll their faculty and parents/legal guardians to determine if the school wants to continue and/or adopt a student uniform program.

Schools that decide to participate in the student uniform program will follow these guidelines.

Each school, with input from parents/legal guardians, will determine the designated uniform. The district urges schools to select practical, generic-type uniforms that will be available at a modest cost.

The school will give parents/legal guardians at least three (3) months' notice prior to implementation of the student uniform program.

### Financial Assistance Plan

- Any parent/legal guardian who cannot afford uniforms may request financial assistance from the school. The individual must establish need with the principal, as the district does not expect the school to incur the parental responsibility of providing school clothing for students.
- Each school will work with staff, the local school community, and business partners to identify resources for assisting families in the purchase of uniforms.
- The school will maintain a list of community agencies, uniform retailers, organizations, and individuals willing to assist families in need to help to purchase uniforms.
- The school may ask PTAs/PTOs or school volunteers to coordinate the effort to provide needed assistance.

# **Exemption Procedures**

Any parent/legal guardian may exempt his/her child from the student uniform program by following these procedures:

- The parent/legal guardian should submit request for exemption in writing to the principal or designee.
- The parent/legal guardian will meet with a designated school administrator to discuss the uniform program to ensure that the party understands the goals of the program and to determine the nature of the parent/legal guardian's objections.

## **Disciplinary Action**

Prior to initiating any district action against a student who does not comply with the student uniform program, the principal (or designee) will confer with the parent/legal guardian to solicit parental cooperation and support. The school will not consider a student non-compliant if the parent/legal guardian has opted out of the program according to the procedures as outlined in the policy and rule.

The school will initiate disciplinary action only after pursing all avenues of support and cooperation. The school will only take action consistent with the district's Code of Conduct (policy JICDA and rule JICDA-R).

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# **Richland County School District One**