

RANCHO SANTA FE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy No. 5018: LIMITATIONS ON APPEARANCE

- A. The Board encourages pupils to dress appropriately for school. The Board believes that pupils should be neatly and cleanly dressed.
- B. The Board acknowledges that pupils have legal rights to freedom of expression, but the following limitations on appearance shall apply:
 - 1. Pupils must dress safely. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times and must not limit participation in school activities. For example, footwear must be appropriate for physical education and playground/recess activities. Elevated heels and backless shoes will not be permitted for these activities.
 - 2. Pupils must dress appropriately for educational activities in which they will participate so as not to endanger their health, safety or welfare or present a substantial threat of disrupting the educational process.
 - 3. Students with pierced portions of their bodies may be required to remove jewelry during activities in which the wearing of such jewelry may endanger their safety.
 - 4. Clothing must reasonably fit the pupil. Undergarments should not be exposed at any time. Coaches and teachers may adopt reasonable additional rules to assure the health and safety of students participating in particular classes or athletic events.
 - 5. Pupils must be cleanly dressed so as not to promote unhealthy or unsanitary conditions.
 - 6. Hair shall not be disruptive to the learning environment.
 - 7. Makeup should not be brought to school, and if worn, should be applied at home. Students should refrain from wearing excessive make-up at school.
 - 8. Pupils shall not dress in an obscene manner or display obscene material on clothing or on personal items such as backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles, etc.
 - 9. Extremely brief garments, such as very short skirts or shorts, and too-revealing garments, such as plunging necklines, see-through shirts or blouses, halter tops, clothing which reveal underclothing, breasts, buttocks, or midriffs is prohibited.
 - 10. Pupils must not wear clothing that is too revealing or skin tight over parts of the body that should not be exposed in an educational environment.
 - 11. Pupils shall not display any material on clothing or personal belongings which advertises or promotes an unlawful act such as the consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors,

the possession, sale or use of controlled drugs or substances, violence, or discrimination on any grounds prohibited by state or federal law.

12. Pupils shall not display any material which is libelous or slanderous.
13. Pupils shall not display any material which so incites pupils as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of District policies or rules.
14. Pupils shall not display any material which so incites pupils as to create a clear and present danger of a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or the educational process.
15. Pupils may wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to plain baseball caps or hats of any color, and sunglasses for outdoor use only. Caps with bills must be worn with the bill forward. Sunglasses must be removed immediately when asked to do so by a staff member.
16. Gang apparel and gang-related apparel is hazardous to the health and safety of the school environment. The Superintendent is authorized to meet with law enforcement and other knowledgeable persons in the community to identify gang activity, gang and gang-related apparel, and to provide notice to parents, guardians and pupils of such prohibited items if gang activity is present. Pupils wearing or carrying overt gang paraphernalia/clothing shall be referred to the Superintendent or designee. If necessary, the pupil's parent or guardian shall be contacted and the pupil sent home to change clothes.

C. No pupil may be suspended because of a violation of Section B of this Board Policy unless:

1. Other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct;
2. The pupil has been given adequate notice of the violation of this Board Policy; and
3. The pupil has been given an adequate opportunity under the circumstances to comply with the direction to cease violating this Board Policy.

D. This Board Policy shall not be interpreted so as to limit any efforts by employees to have pupils voluntarily dress in a manner which promotes a better learning atmosphere.

Legal Reference:

Education Code sections 35183, 35183.5, 48907, 48900, and 48900.5

Date Policy Adopted By The Board: September 6, 1990

Dates Policy Revised By The Board: January 13, 2005; June 5, 2008; February 5, 2014, February 20, 2019