

# ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 521

**Board of Trustees  
Douglas County School District**

**STUDENTS**

## **STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE**

Douglas County School District is an educational institution with the mission of preparing students for the world of work. Personal appearance and dress are the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student. Within the instructional setting students will be required to adhere to the specified guidelines outlined in the school handbook. The Administration reserves the right to determine whether a student's attire and appearance are appropriate and do not disrupt the educational environment for other students.

In the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of all students in Douglas County schools, and in an attempt to provide guidance to staff members who need to enforce appropriate dress and appearance that meets these guidelines and is not a distraction to the learning environment, the following standards have been developed:

1. Student clothing and fit must not present potential health or safety problems.
2. Clothing that exposes the abdomen, chest, breasts, buttocks, private parts and/or undergarments will not be allowed. This includes revealing and/or transparent clothing. All shirts must have a strap or sleeve.
3. Shorts, skirts and dresses must be appropriate length, covering the buttocks including when moving or bending over.
4. All jeans, pants, trousers, shorts, skirts, etc., must be secured at waist level and not have rips or tears that expose undergarments or other areas of the body as described in item 2 above.
5. Sunglasses may be worn indoors if there is a medical reason for indoor use.
6. Hats, hoodies, or other headwear may not be worn inside school buildings during the school day other than for a valid medical, safety, or religious reason.
7. Clothing shall not display unprotected speech including but not limited to: obscene, vulgar, depiction of violence, profane language or illustrations; and nothing that promotes an illegal activity, including underage drinking, illegal drug use or underage use of marijuana, domestic abuse, gang membership, battery, assault, or any other civil or criminal conduct which would violate state or federal law. Also prohibited are apparel, jewelry, accessories, notebooks, or any manner of appearance which because of its color, the way it is worn, its trademark, or any other characteristic,

carries known gang connotations or can be used as a weapon. This includes, but is not limited to, chains, spikes, pins, or needles.

8. Commonly acceptable standards of health and safety and the wearing of underclothing and footwear are required at all times. Shoes that are safe and appropriate for school activities must be worn at all times. No slippers are allowed.
9. The safety of students requires that when a student is working around potentially hazardous equipment, his or her hair must be short or appropriately covered.

Each school shall develop positive reinforcement measures to encourage full compliance with student attire. Each school should strive to achieve full compliance through use of positive reinforcement measures, and should resort to disciplinary action only when positive measures fail to ensure compliance. In addition, schools shall communicate with parents/guardians so that the expectations, rationale and benefits are fully understood by the student and the family.

During designated spirit days, administration may approve temporary dress code modifications at their discretion.

If students repeatedly fail to comply with student dress and appearance expectations, violations of this regulation could result in progressive discipline as determined by the district Progressive Discipline Plan.

[See Policy related to this Administrative Regulation](#)

Date Adopted: 7/20/93  
Revised: 10/99  
Revised: 7/22  
Revised: 5/19/2026