

Book
WSSD Policy Manual
Section
200 Pupils
Title
Dress and Grooming
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Active
Legal
[1. 24 P.S. 1317.3](#)
[2. 22 PA Code 12.11](#)
[3. Pol 251](#)
[4. Pol. 325](#)
[5. Pol. 000](#)
[6. Pol. 220](#)
Pol. 103
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Purpose

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance except, when their choices ~~affect, disrupt~~ the educational program of the schools or ~~the constitute a health, or safety, or welfare of others hazard.~~[\[1\]\[2\]\[5\]\[6\]](#)

Authority

~~The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school.~~
~~[\[1\]\[2\]\[6\]](#)~~

~~While the following list is not intended to be exhaustive, student dress shall not be protected if it:~~

- ~~1. Promotes the violation of and/or violates federal, state, or local laws, Board policy or District rules or procedures.~~
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- ~~2. Is libelous defamatory, obscene, lewd, vulgar, or profane.[\[3\]](#)~~
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3. Advocates the use, or advertises the availability, of any substance or material the possession of which may be illegal or which may constitute a direct and substantial danger to the health of students, such as tobacco/nicotine, alcohol or illegal drugs.
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4. Incites violence, advocates use of force, or threatens serious harm to the school or school community.
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5. Is likely to or does materially or substantially interfere with the educational process, such as school activities, school work, discipline, safety, and order on school property or at school functions.
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6. Interferes with, or advocates for interference with, the rights of any individual, or the safe and orderly operation of the schools and their programs.
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Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.[2][5]

The Board directs district staff to support students experiencing educational instability by waiving penalties related to a delay in compliance with Board policy or school rules related to dress and grooming.[3][5]

~~The Dress and Grooming may be reviewed annually by the Board to determine the degree of student support as reflected in Delegation of Responsibility (Items #13 and #14).[1]~~

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Delegation of Responsibility

School staff shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming. The building administration or designee shall be responsible to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all school rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's expression and individuality.[2]

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes and compliance with Board policy and school rules related to dress and grooming.[4]

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Students are encouraged to take pride in their physical appearance and to select clothing ~~which is complimentary to them and~~ appropriate to the weather and season.

~~When students come to school inappropriately dressed, as determined by the administration, the faculty and administration will take steps to correct the situation. Such correction will include a change of the clothing found to be inappropriate. The following specific dress and grooming provisions will apply:~~

~~Students are responsible for keeping themselves, their hair, and their clothing clean.~~

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~~Length and style of hair, clothing, or jewelry will be regulated to eliminate any health or safety hazards, and to prevent any disruption of the educational process. Students with long hair may be required to wear restraining devices in certain situations such as technology education labs, science labs, home economics, physical education, and athletic contests.~~

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~~Clothing displaying profanity, obscene pictures, gestures or words, drug or alcohol use, alcohol or tobacco products, weapons, or sexual innuendoes is not acceptable.~~

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~~Clothing which is tight or revealing that tends to disrupt the educational process is not acceptable. No clothing may purposely exposes undergarments.~~

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~~Clothing or jewelry that creates, or may permit to create, danger or disruption to the school community is prohibited. Suggestive clothing is disruptive to the educational process and will not be permitted. Likewise, jewelry which may pose a danger to the student or others will not be permitted.~~

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~~It is against school policy for any individual to harass another on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or national origin. Clothing which creates a substantial disruption of school work, classes, events or activities, or interferes with the rights of others, is prohibited.~~

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~~Males and females may wear hats or head coverings to and from school, but not while school is in session. Hair restraints may be worn during school to hold hair safely in place.~~

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~~Tops will not expose the mid-section of the body. Spaghetti straps, as well as completely bare shoulders, are not acceptable. Sleeveless clothing is permitted as long as undergarments are not shown and they comply with dress code provision #4. Also, tops of shirts must be cut modestly.~~

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~~Wearing of Shorts~~

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~~Secondary.~~

~~Shorts of mid-thigh length or longer may be worn during the school year with consideration given to temperature and weather conditions.~~

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~~Elementary.~~

~~Shorts of mid-thigh length or longer may be worn during the school year from March 20 through and including October 22, providing the weather is appropriate for such attire.~~

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~~Females may wear skirts of mid-thigh length or longer.~~

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~~Students must wear safe footwear which will not mark or damage school property.~~

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~~Gloves or outerwear coats are not to be worn in the school unless permitted by the teacher due to the temperature in the classroom.~~

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~~A list, giving specific examples of inappropriate clothing, will be provided and updated annually each summer by a committee comprised of staff and students representing middle and high school. The list will be published in each building's "Student Handbook" as an easily understood quick reference to those items deemed inappropriate as a result of this policy.~~

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~~Student Councils at the secondary schools will aid in the acceptance and understanding of the policy by promoting self-policing among the student body.~~