



## **POLICY 221 -- DRESS AND GROOMING**

### **1. 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 to make decisions regarding their appearance except when their choices affect the educational program of the schools or the health and safety of others or cause damage to school property.

The school does bear a responsibility to establish some standards which are in keeping with good taste and decency.

### **2. Authority**

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to enforce school regulations prohibiting student dress or grooming practices which:

- > present a hazard to the health or safety of the student him/herself or to others in the school
- > materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program
- > cause excessive wear or damage to school property
- > prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shops, extra-curricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to insure the health or safety of the student.

### **3. Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent will develop procedures to implement this policy which:

- > designate the building principal to monitor student dress and grooming in his/her building
- > instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance
- > ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality

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### **4. Regulations**

After careful consideration of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of all persons concerned and in order to encourage the growth of individual self-respect and develop a heightened sense of pride in the schools, these regulations are adopted:

A. The following provisions are set forth in the interest of health, safety, and protection of school property:

1. Apparel and accessories which may damage or destroy school furniture or other property are prohibited. Examples include: trousers with rivets, shoes or boots with metal cleats, or metal chain belts.
2. Apparel which may be considered injurious to the health of the individual or a fellow student is prohibited. Examples include: bare feet or open footwear without socks, or clothing not kept clean.
3. Apparel which is considered a safety hazard is prohibited. Examples include: loose articles which could become entangled in a machine in home economics or industrial arts classes or items which interfere with vision.

B. In the interest of decency and/or good taste, certain limitations are inherent. Examples include:

1. Footwear designed for special activities may not be worn.
2. Pupils on field trips or appearing on the auditorium stage during assemblies are to dress appropriately for public appearances. The sponsors will have the final decision on appropriate apparel.
3. Any garish clothing or attire which is not in keeping with or which tends to detract from the purpose of a public school may not be worn.
4. Shirts and blouses with tails designed to be worn in shall be so worn.
5. Boys' trouser length and girls' skirt or dress length will be consistent with good taste.

C. High School/Middle School -- Shorts

The building principal will determine if shorts may be worn by students. If permission is granted, students must abide by the following requirements:

1. The shorts must be mid-thigh to knee length (e.g. Bermuda shorts, walking shorts).
2. No cut-offs, gym shorts, nylon running shorts, or "spam-jams."
3. Tank tops and bare midriffs will be prohibited.
4. Shorts may only be worn from the first Monday in May until the fourth Friday in September of the following school year.

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- D. If a student insists on deviating from these dress regulations, his/her parents will be notified so that proper attire can be obtained. If it is no possible for proper attire to be readily obtained, the student will not be admitted to class until the situation is remedied. The parents may arrange a conference with the principal if they desire.