

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING EXPECTATIONS

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PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The Board recognizes that dress and grooming affect the behavior of students, that there are sanitation and safety factors directly related to proper dress and grooming, and that school administrators, teachers, and parents need clear dress and grooming guidelines so that rules of dress and discipline can be enforced consistently. Therefore, the Board establishes the following expectations for student dress and appearance and rules for the adoption of school uniforms at the school level.

HAIR

All students shall wear their hair in a clean and well-groomed manner. Extreme hairstyles or colors are prohibited.

CLOTHING

1. The Board emphasizes the importance of school, parent, and student collaboration in encouraging students to come to school dressed appropriately for schoolwork. School officials may prohibit the following types or styles of clothing at school or school activities:
 - a. Extreme or slovenly clothing, including but not limited to, baggy or “sagging” pants or shorts, excessively oversized jackets or coats, , or clothing that is torn, ripped or frayed;;
 - b. Bare or stocking feet;
 - c. Clothing which displays obscene, vulgar, lewd, or sexually explicit words, messages, or pictures, or illegal behavior;
 - d. Clothing attachments or accessories which could be considered weapons, including but not limited to spikes on boots, bracelets or chokers, chains on wallets or belts, etc.;
 - e. Exaggerated cosmetics and body paint;
 - f. Exaggerated body piercing;
 - g. Clothing that does not cover the entire torso and so exposes stomach or midriff, shoulders, cleavage or lower chest area, back, or buttocks (examples include tank tops, halter tops, tops with spaghetti straps, strapless tops, backless tops, as well as sheer fabrics or fabrics with openings exposing skin or undergarments);
 - h. Clothing that exposes undergarments;
 - i. Clothing that advertises or depicts a substance a student cannot legally possess or use (i.e., tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs);
 - j. Clothing that portrays disrespect toward any race, culture, religion, sexual orientation, or gender.
2. Any clothing or apparel that conveys a specific, particularized message (e.g., political buttons, apparel or jewelry with writing or symbols or which by its nature conveys a particular message)

that school officials reasonably expect will cause material disruption of class work, or substantial interference with the work of the school or invasion of the rights of others may be prohibited.

GANG APPAREL

1. A “gang” as defined in this policy means any organization, association or group of three or more which have a unique name or identifiable signs, symbols, or marks, and whose members individually or collectively engage in criminal or violent behavior to persons or property, or who create an unreasonable and substantial disruption or risk of disruption of a class, activity, program, or other function of a school.
2. District policy prohibits students from engaging in any form of gang activity on or about school property, or at any school activity. Students will be investigated, and subject to discipline and/or prosecution for engaging in any one or more of the following school related activities; 1) wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, apparel, emblems, badges, tattoos or manner of grooming, accessories, symbols, signs, or other thing which is evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang; 2) Committing any act or omission or using any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (flashing signs, gestures, handshakes, etc.) that demonstrates membership in or affiliation with a gang; 3) soliciting others for membership in gang; 4) requesting any person to pay for “protection” or otherwise intimidating, retaliating against, threatening, hazing, or harassing any person; 5) possessing a weapon, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, or other contraband; 6) committing any illegal act; and 7) encouraging or inciting another person to act with physical violence upon any other person or cause damage to property.
3. Because gang styles and clothing continually evolve and change, each school may keep a current representative list of items that have been identified by school officials and local police agencies as gang-related clothing in that particular school community which shall be provided to students and parents. The listed items of gang-related clothing are prohibited under this policy. If a student or parent believes that an item on the list is not gang-related, the parent or student may request that the item be removed from the list and the District administration shall consult with local law enforcement in determining whether to grant the request.

UNIFORM DRESS

Although this policy does not officially encourage or discourage school uniforms, the Board authorizes, consistent with state law, school officials and school communities to adopt policies on school uniforms at the school level. The procedure for adoption of a school uniform at the school level specified in Utah Code Title 53G, Chapter 7, Part 8, “School Uniforms” shall be followed.

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