

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Catch Up V17N1 thru V20N2
Title	DRESS AND GROOMING
Code	*po5511 fs/FH 7/24/20 V17N2 FH
Status	First Reading
Adopted	October 28, 2008

## 5511 - DRESS AND GROOMING

The School 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 interfere with the educational program of the schools. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a dress code in order to promote a safe and healthy school setting and enhance the educational environment. The dress code shall be incorporated into the Code of Student Conduct.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall establish such grooming procedures as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes. Such procedures shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

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

Such procedures shall establish the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event.

The Superintendent shall develop, and update as needed, administrative procedures to implement this policy which:

- A. designate the principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building;
- B. require that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum and necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be suspended from school.

## **[ X ] SELECT THIS OPTION IF THE DISTRICT IS INTERESTED IN ATTEMPTING TO PURSUE THE ANNUAL \$10 PER STUDENT AWARD FOR IMPLEMENTING A STANDARD STUDENT ATTIRE POLICY (SEE F.S. 1011.78)**

The Board is desirous of adopting a standard student attire policy for all students in kindergarten through grade 8 regardless of individual school grade configurations. Such a policy will further foster learning and provide a safer educational environment by:

1. encouraging students to express their individuality through personality and academic achievements, rather than outward appearance.
2. enabling students to focus on academics, rather than fashion, because they are able to convey a neat, serious, and studious image.
3. minimizing disciplinary problems because students are not distracted by clothing.
4. reducing the time needed to correct dress code violations through a readily available inventory of compliant attire.

5. minimizing visible differences between students and eliminating social pressures to wear brand-name clothing or colors to show gang affiliation, thereby easing financial pressures on parents and enhancing school safety.

6. creating a sense of school pride and belonging.

Pursuant to the District's standard student attire policy, students must wear solid-colored clothing and fabrics for pants, skirts, shorts, or similar clothing and short- or long-sleeved shirts with collars. The following types or styles of clothing are prohibited:

**( ) Lower Garments**

- 1. Pants shall conform to the build and stature of the student, shall be worn at the waist, and shall not extend below the heel of the shoe in length. Pants shall have no holes or rips. (Tights, spandex, leggings, bike shorts, etc., are not permitted.)**
- 2. Undergarments shall not be visible. (Sports bras are considered undergarments.)**
- 3. Dresses and skirts must reach mid thigh or below in length with the waistband of skirts worn at waist level.**
- 4. Shorts must have clearly discernable inseams of reasonable length and cover the buttocks. Short shorts are prohibited.**

**( ) Footwear**

Students must wear shoes that are safe and appropriate for the learning environment. Footwear commonly considered as beachwear is prohibited (for example: flip flops, thongs, etc.).

**( ) Accessories**

1. Clothing, jewelry, and accessories shall not convey messages that are crude; vulgar/profane; violent/death-oriented (Gothic); gang related; sexually suggestive; and/or promoting alcohol, drugs, or tobacco.
2. Pierced jewelry shall be limited to the ear. Dog collars, tongue rings, wallet chains, large hair picks, chains that connect one part of the body to another, or other jewelry/accessories that pose a safety concern for the student or others shall be prohibited.

The District is cognizant that students' religions, disabilities, or medical conditions may impact their ability to comply with the standard student attire policy. Reasonable accommodations based on religion, disability, or medical condition shall be permitted on an individual basis.

No later than September 1st of each year, the Superintendent shall certify to the Florida Commissioner of Education that the District has implemented the standard student attire policy in accordance with Florida law.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy which:

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