

Book Policy Manual

Section J - Students

Title Dress Code

Code JCDB

Status Active

Adopted July 1, 2001

Last Revised November 25, 2019

Last Reviewed February 16, 2016

JCDB - Dress Code

In support of the district's focus on equity, access to instruction, student learning, and safety, and to ensure that the student dress code is applied equitably to all students in the district, the board adopts the following universal dress code.

The student dress code and administrative enforcement of the student dress code should not create, reinforce, or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, household income, gender identity, gender expression, or cultural observance. The board has determined the following in support of these goals:

Students should be able to dress and style their hair for school in a manner that expresses their individuality without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) hold the primary responsibility for determining the student's personal attire, hairstyle, jewelry, and personal items (e.g. backpacks, book bags). Students and staff are responsible for managing their own personal distractions without regulating another student's clothing/self-expression. The district's dress code is designed and intended to ensure that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student. Students dressed in alignment with the dress code can be free to learn and not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance; staff can focus on teaching and learning without the additional burden of dress code enforcement. Students have the right to be treated equitably and with dignity; these rights extend to application and enforcement of the district dress code. The restrictions included in the dress code are necessary to support the overall educational goals of the district and its schools.

Students must wear:

Top (shirt, blouse, sweater, sweatshirt, tank, dress, etc.); Bottom (pants, athletic pants, shorts, skirt, dress, leggings, etc.); and Shoes.

This policy permits additional student attire requirements when necessary to ensure safety and the ability to fully participate in certain academic settings (e.g. physical activity, sports, science, or CTE courses). Additionally, this

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/usd497/Board.nsf/Private?open&login# 1/2 11/26/2019 BoardDocs® Pro>

policy allows for reasonable variation in required student attire for participation in activities such as swimming or gymnastics, or fine arts programming. Courses that include attire as part of the curriculum (e.g., professionalism, public speaking, job readiness, fine arts performances) may include assignment-specific dress.

Students may wear:

Hats, including religious headwear Hoodie sweatshirts Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants, and "skinny jeans" Ripped jeans, as long as underwear is not exposed Tank tops, including spaghetti straps, halter tops, and strapless tops

Students cannot wear:

Violent language or images Images or language depicting weapons, drugs or drug paraphernalia, alcohol, nicotine products, illegal items, or illegal activities, or use of the same Hate speech, threats, profanity, or pornography Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class. Visible underwear. Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under clothing are not a violation. Bathing suits (except where required for participation in a course or school activity). Helmets, hats, or headwear that obscures the face (except where such is worn as a religious observance or for medical purposes). Clothing that intentionally shows private parts (nipples, genitals, buttocks); clothing must cover private parts in opaque (not able to be seen-through) material. Clothing or accessories that may endanger the student or others, such as spikes. Clothing that covers the student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable (except clothing/headwear worn for religious or medical purposes).

Hairstyles

Except where student health and safety may be implicated (e.g., in chemistry or science lessons, culinary lessons, physical education or sports classes), restrictions shall not be placed on how students choose to wear their hair. Any restrictions that are necessary for student health or safety must be equitably enforced, and must not be enforced differently based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, household income, gender identity, or cultural observance.

Enforcement

The superintendent shall ensure that all staff are trained regarding application and enforcement of this policy. The dress code policy shall be made available to students and parents through the district's website and through each school's website, handbook, or other communications.

Staff shall use reasonable efforts to avoid dress-coding students in front of other students.

Students shall not be disciplined or removed from class as a consequence for wearing attire in violation of this policy unless the attire

creates a substantial disruption to the educational environment, poses a hazard to the health or safety of the student or others, or factors into a student behavior rule violation such as malicious harassment or the prohibition on harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may develop procedures to implement this policy as needed.

Approved: July 1, 2001 Reviewed by Board Policy Committee:
October 18, 2004 Reviewed by Board Policy Committee:
February 27, 2008 Reviewed by Board Policy Committee:
February 16, 2016 Amended: November 25, 2019

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ks/usd497/Board.nsf/Private?open&login# 2/2>