



Book	Policy Manual
Section	5000 Students
Title	DRESS AND GROOMING
Code	po5511
Status	Active
Adopted	January 11, 2021
Last Revised	March 21, 2022

5511 - **DRESS AND GROOMING**

The Board of Education 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 reasonable 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 Student Code of Conduct or Discipline Code.

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

- A. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student 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 the student's educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines 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 administrative guidelines to implement this policy that:

- A. designate the principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming at the building level;
- B. invite the participation of staff, parents and students in the preparation of a dress code that may specify prescribed dress and grooming practices, but may not amplify the rationale for prohibition established by Board policy;
- C. instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance;
- D. ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum and necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality;
- E. direct staff to enforce the school's dress code in a nondiscriminatory and uniform manner, including without regard to whether a student is transgender or gender nonconforming.

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

If a student disagrees with a principal's decision concerning enforcement of the dress code (i.e., with respect to the student's compliance with the dress code), the student may appeal the principal's decision to the Superintendent, who will meet with the student within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of the student's disagreement. The Superintendent will issue a written decision on the matter within five (5) school days of the meeting.

The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

© Neola 2022

Legal

R.C. 3313.20, 3313.60, 3313.661, 3313.665