

**Dress**

The expression of a student's uniqueness and individuality by means of his/her dress is sanctioned by the Governing Board as being consistent with stated purposes of the school. Restrictions on freedom of student dress will be imposed whenever the mode of dress question

1. Is unsafe either for himself/herself or those around him/her.
2. Is disruptive of school operations and the education process in general.
3. Is contrary to law.

No restrictions on freedom of dress and adornment will be imposed which

1. Reflects discrimination as to civil rights.
2. Enforce particular codes of morality or religious tenets.
3. Attempt to dictate or adjudicate style or taste.
4. Do not fall within the direct or implied powers of the Governing Board.

The administration is encouraged to establish any needed regulations consistent with this policy through cooperative planning with staff, students and parents.

It should be recognized that any apparel which draws undue attention to the wearer tends to detract from the educative process and is, therefore, inappropriate. Good taste and good grooming are a part of learning for both boys and girls. In addition, it is recognized that the school shares with the parents a responsibility for teaching young people appropriateness of dress. It is a mark of maturity when students can freely choose apparel that demonstrates individuality without deviating from the standard appropriateness. To a high degree, a student's dress will help to determine that student's conduct. Fashion dictates changes, but as with most things new, certain guidelines and limitations have to be set which are in the best interests of all students at the school.

When gangs constitute a danger to students, the Superintendent or designee may restrict student dress and grooming as necessary to comply with Board policy related to gang activity.

*(cf. 5136 - Gangs)*

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about the school dress code at the beginning of the year and when revised. A student who violates the dress code shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

*(cf. 5144 - Discipline)*

**Legal References:****EDUCATION CODE**

48907 Student exercise of free expression

49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

**CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 5**

302 Pupil to be neat and clean on entering school

Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Arcadia Unified School District v. State Department of Education, 92 Daily Journal, D.A.R. 3578