

WILKINSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: DRESS CODE

ADOPTED: May 25, 2004

REVISED:

221. DRESS CODE	
1. Purpose	<p>The district recognizes every student's right to freedom of expression in both speech, whether written or oral, and in the wearing of apparel, as that right is guaranteed by law.</p> <p>The district also recognizes its obligation to provide schools where health, safety, and welfare of the students who attend those schools are given paramount consideration, and where a positive learning environment must be maintained.</p>
SC 1317.3	<p>The district is aware of its obligations to make every effort to minimize the opportunities for student distraction and/or disruption in the schools under its jurisdiction and believes that a dress code and/or policy of wearing uniforms will address issues related to the health, safety, and welfare of the students and the maintenance of a positive learning environment.</p>
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 12.11 Pol. 220	<p>The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or affect the health and safety of others. Where student dress may constitute student expression, Policy 220 Student Expression shall apply.</p>
SC 1317.3	<p>The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school.</p>
Title 22 Sec. 12.11	<p>Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.</p>
3. Definitions	<p>Uniform is defined as a mode of dress for both male and female students, which ranges from apparel that is similar in color and style to apparel that is identical in color and style.</p>

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 12.11</p> <p>Pol. 325, 425, 525</p> <p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>Exclusionary dress code is defined either in writing or declared verbally by a given building principal, which prohibits the wearing of certain apparel and accessories by students during school time, on school premises, or at any school-sponsored event, whether on or off school premises.</p> <p>The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming and enforce school rules governing student dress and grooming.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.</p> <p>Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate by example positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.</p> <p>The following exclusionary dress code shall apply to every student within the district:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No student shall wear any apparel or jewelry that by words, signs, pictures or any combination thereof, appearing on said clothing or jewelry, advocates or promotes sexual activity or violence, or the use of alcohol or drugs, or demeans or degrades another because of race, sex, religious persuasion, national origin, handicap or disability. This prohibition shall be in effect during regular school hours and at any school-sponsored event, whether on or off school premises. <p>In addition to the district-wide exclusionary dress code, the building principal is authorized to establish within their particular building a prescribed dress code.</p> <p>Prescribed dress code is defined either in writing or declared verbally by a given building principal, that requires the student to wear a certain mode of dress during school time, on school premises, or at any school-sponsored event, whether on or off school premises.</p> <p>The dress code in each school shall be implemented with the participation of representatives of the faculty of the school, the parents/guardians of the students who attend the school, and representatives of the student body itself.</p> <p>Once consensus has been reached at any given school on the implementation of a dress code, a written version of the code shall be submitted by the principal to the Superintendent and Board for approval. Once the Board has approved a particular dress code, any further modification of that dress code will require approval of the Superintendent only.</p>
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<p>PA Code Title 22 Sec. 12.11</p> <p>School Code 1317.3</p> <p>Board Policy 220, 325, 425, 525</p>	<p>In the implementation of a prescribed dress code, due consideration shall be given to the affordability and diversity of that prescribed dress code.</p> <p>The cost of implementing a prescribed dress code shall be borne by the parent/guardian of the student; however, the principal shall have the right to seek financial assistance in those cases where the principal determines that the parent/guardian is unable to bear the cost.</p> <p>The building principal is directed to prepare a plan for the implementation of the dress code in that particular school and, to the extent practical, shall utilize the students of that school in monitoring compliance with the dress code, either through a peer review council, a student council, or whatever governmental body exists for the students in that particular school.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall promulgate and implement clear procedures and guidelines for planning, participation in planning, and adoption of any exclusionary and/or prescribed dress code.</p> <p>The building principal shall share this policy with the parents/guardians and students in his/her school, explaining the options objectively without promoting or disparaging the adoption of a dress code. Reference to this policy and guidelines for the dress code shall be disseminated in all student handbooks.</p>
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