

Panther Valley School District

TITLE: DRESS AND GROOMING

ADOPTED: December 4, 2008

REVISED:

221. DRESS AND GROOMING	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board of School Directors recognizes the right of every student to freedom of expression both in speech and the wearing of apparel as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court.</p> <p>The Board also recognizes its paramount obligation to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the students who attend its schools.</p> <p>The Board further recognizes its responsibility to maintain a positive learning environment in the schools under its jurisdiction and to minimize the opportunity for student distraction and/or disruption.</p> <p>The Board believes that a policy of uniform dress will address the issues related to the health, safety, and welfare of the students attending schools and will further aid in the maintenance of a positive learning environment.</p>
2. SC 1317.3	<p>The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school</p>
3. Authority Title 22 Sec. 12.11	<p>The Board authorizes the Superintendent to enforce school regulations prohibiting student dress or grooming practices which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student to himself or to others in the school. - Materially interfere with schoolwork; create disorder or disrupt the educational Program. - Cause excessive wear or damage to school property. - Prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement. <p>Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shop classes, extra-curricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.</p> <p>Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the</p>

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 325, 425, 525</p> <p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>regular instructional program where this is evidence that the lack of cleanliness constitutes a health hazard to the education process.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which designates the building principal to monitor student dress and grooming in his/her building and instruct staff members to demonstrate by example wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, property, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.</p> <p>Parents must be mindful that dress, which may be distracting or disruptive to the learning process, will not be tolerated. Any student violating this dress code will be considered insubordinate and dealt with according to the following penalties:</p> <p>First Offense – Notify parents to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in an area designated by the principal until proper attire is provided by the parent.</p> <p>Second Offense – Parent meeting is required. Student will remain in an area designated by the principal and assigned detention.</p> <p>Third Offense – Parent meeting required. Out-Of-School suspension will occur.</p> <p>Repeated violations of the standard dress code shall be treated as disruptive behavior as noted in the discipline policy.</p> <p>School administrators have the final responsibility for interpretation and enforcement. School administrators may give permission for students to dress outside the parameters of the dress code guidelines on planned occasions. Examples may include, but are not limited to, Spirit Days, Read Across America Day, Picture Day, Incentive Days, JROTC Activities.</p> <p>The following dress and grooming guidelines shall apply to all students in grades K through 12:</p> <p>All Students in grades K through 12 shall be subject to a uniform dress code consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solid Khaki, Grey or Black full-length pants or capri pants (Guideline #1) - Solid Khaki, Grey or Black skirts or jumpers (Guideline #2) Solid Khaki, Grey or Black shorts are permitted in Grades K-5 - Solid colored shirt (Guideline #3) Black, Gold, White or Grey - No Black on Black
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Guidelines:

1. Pants will be straight-legged dress or casual slack in above listed colors. Pants May **not** be of the cargo or carpenter style with pockets below the hips, loops, Straps, elastic ankles or other comparable adornments. Pants must be worn at the waist and fit comfortably. Excessively tight or baggy pants will not be permitted. Pants must be of an appropriate length so as to not drag on the floor. Garments worn so as to expose underwear will be in defiance of the dress code.
2. Students are permitted to wear skirts or jumpers that are knee-length or longer in above listed colors. Students in grades K-5 are permitted to wear shorts that are knee-length or longer in above listed colors.

Pants, capri pants, shorts, skirts or jumpers made of Denim and/or leather material may not be worn.

3. Shirts will be collared, long or short-sleeved, pullover, or golf-style, appropriately sized, buttoned to the base of the neck and of solid color. Students may opt to wear a dress shirt, appropriately sized, buttoned to the base of the neck and tucked in. Students may wear solid turtleneck or crewneck shirts under the regulation shirt or a full torso sweater or a cardigan sweater. See-through shirts are **not** permitted to ensure garments or accessories worn underneath are not visible. Students may also elect to wear the turtleneck shirt as the primary garment. All shirts must have sleeves, which cover the shoulders. Tank tops, sleeveless tops, shells, mesh tops, sheer tops, bare midriffs or any other garment that expose the upper torso will **not** be permitted. Hooded sweaters are **not** permitted. Only Panther Valley logo is permitted, which measures no larger than 3”x 4”on the left chest panel.
4. For safety reasons the School District reserves the right to insist upon age appropriate footwear. Shoes will be brown, black, tan or burgundy with matching laces. Shoes must be close-toed. Shoes with excessive heels, boots, and sandals are prohibited. All footwear must have a back, which secures the shoe to the foot. Sneakers are permitted and must be predominantly white, black, brown or tan. Socks may be grey, black, brown, tan or white. If the footwear is designed to have laces, the laces must be in the footwear and tied. No flip-flops.
5. There shall be no clothing worn with messages, written or symbolic, pertaining to but not limited to drug, alcohol, or tobacco messages, references to illegal substances, implications of an obscene or sexual nature, negative comments about another’s culture, references to racist or hate groups, or violence.

	<p>6. Mutilation of clothing, which includes purposely cutting holes or tearing required clothing will not be permitted.</p> <p>7. Jewelry and other adornments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The district recognizes the right of the students to wear jewelry and other adornments. However, certain jewelry and other adornments and the manner in which they are worn or displayed, may not be appropriate under certain circumstances, and may pose a danger to the safety and welfare of the student or to the other students or staff and may pose a threat to or interruption of the education process.b. In the case of the day-to-day school environment, the administration and/or teaching staff may require that the students remove any jewelry and other adornments which might reasonably be considered as posing a threat to the safety of the student, other students or staff, or as posing a threat to or interruption of the education process.c. Earrings and body rings worn at locations other than the ears are not allowed. Specifically, those worn in the nose, eyebrow, tongue, cheek, or any other visible location besides the ears is not acceptable.d. The piercing body parts and the insertion of jewelry or other objects which result in bleeding, oozing of bodily fluids or other physical condition which may reasonably pose a danger to the student or others is considered inappropriate and unacceptable.e. There shall be no chains worn other than those designed as a necklace or bracelet.f. Hair coloring of a fluorescent or non-typical color shall not be permitted.g. Hats, handkerchiefs, or other similar head wear may not be worn in the school building during regular school hours except for religious or health reasons.h. Sunglasses are not permitted inside the building unless required by an attending physician.i. Accessories deemed to be distracting, disruptive or offensive in nature are prohibited. <p>8. Clothing should be clean, not excessively stained or faded, tidy and free from tears, holes, and fraying.</p>
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9. Upon enrollment in the Panther Valley Area School District, new students will be granted a grace period of two weeks before being required to conform to the dress code.

10. Due to the educational environment at the elementary level and requirements for Physical Education and other activities such as recess , students in grades K-5 will be permitted the following accommodations: sneakers will be permitted; knee-length shorts will be permitted; and boots will be permitted in inclement weather.

Physical Education Class: students in grades K-5 will be permitted to wear Sweat suits of Black, Gold, Grey or White.

Exemption Procedure

If the parent of a student or the student has what they consider to be a bonafide religious belief which precludes strict adherence to the Dress and Grooming Guidelines, the student's parent(s) must fill out the appropriate waiver form (Religious) and submit all other documentation reasonably required by the Administration to establish their objection.

Parents requesting an exemption from these guidelines will be required to meet with the Superintendent or his/her designee to discuss the guidelines and the nature of the objection necessitating a waiver. Following this meeting, the Superintendent shall render a written decision, approving or denying, the requested waiver.

If the parents do not agree with the Superintendent's decision, the parents may request, in writing, a nonpublic meeting with a designated Policy Committee of the Board of Education. The decision of the Policy Committee following this meeting shall be in writing.

Any exemption from these guidelines granted by the Superintendent or the designated Policy Committee of the Board of Education shall be limited to the minimum variance from the guidelines necessary in light of the specific, bonafide religious belief, which precludes strict compliance. The exception as allowed will be clearly stated.

Any exemption granted will apply only to the current school year. If an exemption for a subsequent year is requested from a parent whose child was enrolled at the conclusion of the previous year, the applications for exemption must be submitted to the Superintendent prior to July committee meetings. This procedure shall ensure a decision on the application for exemption prior to the beginning of the first student day of the school year.

	<p><u>Economic Hardship</u></p> <p>Any parent whose child(ren) is deemed to suffer as a result of a perceived economic hardship is directed to complete a Request for Waiver (Financial) form and submit it through the Office of the Principal. Such cases will be reviewed case by case.</p>
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