



NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: J - Students
POLICY TITLE: Student Dress and Grooming Standards
FILE No.: JDG
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1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education recognizes that student dress and grooming directly impacts the education of students. Experience and research has demonstrated that the learning atmosphere is improved when students' dress and groom appropriately. Appropriate student dress and grooming promotes an effective learning environment free of unnecessary disruption and distraction. In addition, appropriate student dress and grooming helps increase school and student safety and security. Certain fads and extremes of dress and grooming tend to attract undue attention to an individual, and accordingly, interfere with or disrupt the educational process. The Board of Education emphasizes the importance of cooperation among schools, parents/guardians, and students to ensure appropriate dress and grooming, and further recognizes that parents/guardians are primarily responsible for their students' dress and grooming. The Board of Education delegates to the school administration the responsibility to see that each student adheres to the dress and grooming standards set forth in this policy.

2. GENERAL STANDARDS

- 2.1** The school administration may determine that certain types of student clothing and grooming are prohibited which:
 - 2.1.1** Draws undue attention, distracts, disrupts, and/or interferes with the educational environment at school or at a school activity or event.
 - 2.1.2** Endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others.
 - 2.1.3** May cause damage to school facilities or equipment.
 - 2.1.4** Does not conform to generally accepted community standards.
 - 2.1.5** Appears as an obvious attempt to challenge this policy or the authority of the school.
- 2.2** Student dress and grooming must conform to the requirements of a special class or school activity or event which requires special dress or grooming and in which the student expects to participate.

3. SPECIFIC STANDARDS

- 3.1** Students shall comply with the following dress and grooming standards at school and at school activities or events:
- 3.1.1** Clothing will be modest, neat, clean, and in good repair. Modesty includes covering shoulders, midriff, back, underwear, and cleavage.
 - 3.1.2** Extreme clothing, which includes, but is not limited to, sagging clothing; excessively oversized clothing; clothing that is mutilated, torn, ripped, or frayed; and cross-gender dressing or grooming are prohibited. In addition, inappropriately short, tight, or revealing shorts, skirts, dresses, tank tops, halter or crop tops, and spaghetti strap tops are prohibited. Skirts, dresses, and shorts must be at least mid-thigh length when the student is sitting.
 - 3.1.3** Clothing and personal items, such as jewelry, backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles, etc., shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignias, which: (a) are crude, vulgar, or profane; (b) are violent or advocate hate; (c) signify gang affiliation; (d) concerns or represents tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or illegal substances; (e) concerns or represents criminal or illegal activities; (f) infringes upon the rights of others; or (g) are sexually suggestive.
 - 3.1.4** Hats and sun glasses are not to be worn in the school building during school hours, except as part of an approved school activity or event, for medical reasons, or for religious purposes.
 - 3.1.5** Appropriate footwear shall be worn at all times in order to insure personal safety and hygiene.
 - 3.1.6** Gang-related clothing, personal items, grooming, hair styles, colors, and paraphernalia are not allowed in schools or at school related activities and events. This includes, but is not limited to, tattoos, bandannas, chains, clothing, or jewelry associated with gangs, gang symbols, names, initials, and insignias. School administration in consultation with law enforcement agencies will determine what constitutes "gang-related" clothing, personal items, grooming, hair styles, colors, and paraphernalia.
 - 3.1.7** All students must maintain their hair in a clean and well-groomed manner. Hair that is fashioned in odd or extreme styles and/or that is colored with vibrant, unnatural looking colors which draws undue attention, distracts, disrupts, and/or interferes with the learning atmosphere at school or at school activities or events is prohibited. It is generally preferred that male students are clean shaven; however, a well-trimmed mustache and/or beard is permissible. Any facial hair which is odd or extreme in color or style that draws undue attention, distracts, disrupts, and/or interferes with the learning atmosphere at school or at school activities and events is prohibited.
 - 3.1.8** Jewelry shall not be worn in any pierced body parts other than the ears. Clothing, jewelry, accessories, piercings, tattoos, chains, etc., which are disfiguring or draw undue attention that distract, disrupt, or interfere with the learning atmosphere at school or at school activities and events, and/or create a health, safety, or welfare issue are prohibited.
- 3.2** Appropriate discretion and good judgment should be utilized for student clothing and grooming worn at school dances, activities, or events outside of the regular school day.

4 ENFORCEMENT AND DISCIPLINE

School administrators are responsible for implementation and enforcement of this policy. The legal concept of "reasonableness" shall be the guiding principle. School administrators may approve exceptions to this policy for special school activities or events. Adherence to these dress and grooming standards will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). Any student violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, being asked to change, remove, or cover the clothing, personal item, or whatever else is at issue; suspension; expulsion; exclusion or loss of extracurricular activities; probation; alternate educational placement; and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. Disciplinary procedures shall be followed as set forth in Nebo School District Policy No. JD, Student Conduct and Discipline.

5. PUBLICATION OF POLICY

This policy may be posted on the District's Web site and published in student registration materials, student handbooks, parent information guides, and other appropriate school publications as directed by the District.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Nothing contained in this policy is intended to infringe upon the right of students to exercise their First Amendment rights of free speech and free exercise of religion, or their Fourteenth Amendment right to liberty. In the event that constitutional rights are implicated, student dress and grooming may be prohibited or restricted by school administration if it is necessary to avoid material and substantial interference with the school's operations or intrusion upon the rights of students or others.

EXHIBITS

None

REFERENCES

First Amendment / Fourteenth Amendment, U.S. Constitution
Nebo School District Policy No. JD, Student Conduct and Discipline

FORMS

None
