

DRESS AND GROOMING

Appropriate Dress and Grooming

The Governing Board firmly believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment at each of the school's campuses. Trustees expect students to wear clothing that is suitable for school activities in which they participate. Clothing must not present a health or safety hazard nor a distraction which would interfere with the educational process.

Gang-related Apparel or Clothing

In light of current trends in apparel and the concern for student and staff members' safety, the Governing Board of Trustees authorizes each school site to establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel or clothing that is linked to hate or violence-type groups.

Wearing of Hats

Articles of sun-protective clothing shall be permissible and may include but not be limited to hats. Hats shall be those which correspond with the school's colors and name and approved by school site administration.

Dress Standards

A list of such dress apparel shall be developed by school site administration, parents and students in cooperation with the local law enforcement agency. The list shall be published in order to set a standard upon which those who enforce the policy and those who must abide by it may make an objective judgment about that which is prohibited. Students who violate these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action that may include suspension and/or expulsion. It is not the intent of the Governing Board to suppress free speech nor freedom of expression, but to take action designed to strengthen the safety of the campuses in order to promote greater student achievement. Students cannot learn nor can staff work or teach in an atmosphere of fear.

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Legal Reference

EDUCATION CODE

- 35183 School dress codes; uniforms
- 35183.5 Pupils: Protective Sun Clothing
- 35294.1 School safety plans
- 48907 Student exercise of free expression
- 49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 302 Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school
- Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899
- Arcadia Unified School District v. California Dept. of Education, (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 251
- Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School Dist. et al 827 F. Supp. 1459 (C.D. Cal. 1993)
- Board Policy 5135 Gangs

ADOPTED: 6/30/99

Revised: 1/16/02