

## **BP 5132 (a) District Dress Code Policy**

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process. The Governing Board believes that education is one of the most important functions of state and local governments and that only by integrating children of various races, colors, cultural, ethnical and environmental backgrounds can the public schools become the effective "marketplace of ideas" for the benefit of all students. Common sense dictates that some uniform regulations are necessary in order to maintain order, spirit, scholarship, pride, and discipline in the operation of such a school district.

The Governing Board recognizes that students' mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of their personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding appearance, except when choices affect the educational program of the schools. It is recognized that any apparel which draws undue attention to the wearer tends to detract from the education process and is therefore inappropriate. Good taste and good grooming are a part of learning for all students. It is the mark of maturity when students can freely choose apparel that demonstrates individuality without deviating from the standard of appropriateness. Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress and grooming standards at the beginning of the school year and whenever these standards are revised. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

### **Gang-Related Apparel**

The Governing Board will establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a dress code will be included as part of the District safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school's students.

The Governing Board will require school principals to develop a school spirit attire plan, i.e. designated plaid, logo shirts, etc., and include in their site annual student/parent handbooks. All coaches will establish consistent dress for athletes on game days.

The Governing Board will annually receive AR 5132 six months before each new school year as an information item and direct staff to communicate any changes to the public through school newsletters and other related vehicles.

## **AR 5132 Dress Code**

### **STUDENTS**

#### **Dress and Grooming (K-12)**

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the Governing Board shall establish rules governing student attire which are consistent with law, Governing Board policy and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

*(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)*

Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

- A. School is a place where the best possible educational environment must be created and maintained. Appropriate dress and grooming are necessary in order to maintain order, provide a safe school environment, and promote discipline. The Board of Trustees encourages pupils to

dress appropriately for school. The Board believes that pupils should be neatly and cleanly dressed. Dress or grooming that draws undue attention to the wearer or detracts from the educational process is unacceptable.

- B. The Board finds that gangs, gang-related apparel, and gang-related activities create a clear and present danger of disrupting the educational process and create a hazard to the health and safety of the school environment. These regulations prohibit the wearing or displaying of gang related apparel, insignia, or other gang identifiers. The Board finds that such regulations are necessary for the health and safety of the school environment. As used in these regulations, a "gang" is two or more people who form an allegiance for a common purpose which includes engaging in, individually or collectively, a pattern of acts that may be threatening, disruptive, or criminal, and which may include such behavior as intimidation, threats, or violence. Gang related apparel" is defined as any item of clothing, accessory, jewelry, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or other attribute, denotes membership in or affiliation with gangs.
- C. This dress code applies to both sexes and will be enforced at school sites, at school functions, and on school buses. The dress code is adopted to promote standards of dress and grooming that promote a safe school setting conducive to a positive learning environment. These regulations are intended to prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:
- 1) present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or others;
  - 2) interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
  - 3) cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
  - 4) prevent the student from achieving educational objectives (e.g., blocked vision or restricted movement);
  - 5) incite pupils so as to create a clear and present danger of school disruption or the commission of unlawful acts;
  - 6) conflict with this Board's philosophy and goals on the prevention of drug abuse and gang activity.
- D. Nothing in this code is to be interpreted to limit the District's responsibility and obligation to enforce unique safety and health requirements (e.g., shop and food situations). Based on the premise that certain ways of dress can be a safety and/or health hazard and can also be a distraction from learning, the following policy on dress will be in effect throughout Central Unified School District. Please note that this dress code is for both sexes, and it will be enforced consistently and fairly at school and at all school sponsored functions and events.
- 1) Pupils must dress safely. For example, shoes must be worn at all times at school or during school hours.
    - a) Clothes shall be no more than one size larger or one size smaller than the student's regular clothing size. Shirts may not hang beyond mid thigh.
    - b) All clothing must be worn as its design was traditionally intended.
    - c) Flip flop sandals may not be worn by K-6 students. All K-6 students must wear shoes with a back strap.
  - 2) Pupils must dress appropriately for educational activities in which they will participate.
    - a) Oversized "Baggy" clothes may not be worn, including but not limited to (shirts, pants, jackets etc.) Pants must not exceed an excess of six inches of material at the knee. All pants and shorts must fit at the waist, crotch, and inseam. The length of pants may not exceed 2" beyond the student's measured inseam. **NO SAGGING OF THE PANTS IS ALLOWED.**
    - b) All pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, culottes, and dresses must be properly hemmed.
    - c) Clothes shall be clean so as not to promote unhealthy or unsanitary conditions. Clothing must be in good condition and not showing excessive wear or exposing skin.
    - d) Dresses, skirts, skorts, and shorts must be at least mid-thigh lengths. Shorts can only be a maximum of eight inches above the knee (shortest) and/or finger length, whichever is longer. No spaghetti strap dresses or tops allowed unless there is an approved top underneath or over; must have appropriate neckline. Students, who

participate in pep and cheer, when required by their advisor to wear their uniforms, may wear their cheer outfits without violation of this provision.

- e) Clothes must be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. Underwear-type sleeveless shirts, see-through, fishnet, or other attire which exposes the body in a sexually suggestive manner, bare midriffs, tube tops, tank tops, or halter tops, etc. are not acceptable. Shoulder straps on tops must not be less than two inches (2") in width, and any apparel determined by District personnel to be too revealing is not acceptable.
  - f) Outerwear may be sweatshirts, sweaters, or jackets only. No shirts may be worn as outerwear. Designer sweatshirts/sweatpants (running outfits) are acceptable.
  - g) Bib overalls and shortalls must have both straps attached to the front of the garment as designed.
  - h) Grades TK-6: No tights may be worn unless they are worn beneath dresses, skirts, skorts, shorts, or culottes. Leggings must be thick enough so as not to be see-through. Grades 7-12: No leggings or tights may be worn unless they are worn beneath dresses, skirts, skorts, shorts, or culottes.
  - i) Hats and specified caps (such as baseball caps, watch caps, winter knit caps, and beanie style caps) may be worn as sun-protective clothing while outdoors. Hats and caps may also be worn to protect against inclement weather. The school may regulate the type of hat and cap as to colors and designs to comply with other Central Unified School District Dress Code guidelines. Hats must be worn facing forward and must not be worn inside school facilities or in classrooms (*refer to Dress and Grooming (K-12) C.*) This dress code applies to both sexes and will be enforced at school sites, at school functions, on school buses and at all school related activities. Students and parents are advised to consult with the administration at the school of attendance in this regard, prior to purchasing or wearing hats and caps.
  - j) Bandanas are not allowed.
  - k) Dark glasses shall not be worn in classrooms, offices, or other buildings unless a documented, related health problem exists.
  - l) Belts must fit properly, go through the belt loops, and may not hang. Brass belt buckles having cut out initials are not permitted.
  - m) Pajama bottoms may not be worn at school unless a designated school spirit day has been declared by site administration on a specific date.
1. Clothing and jewelry shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane, obscene, libelous, slanderous, or sexually suggestive. Clothing or jewelry that advocate racial, ethnic, or religious prejudice, or other unlawful acts, or the use of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol are prohibited.
    - a. Clothing that depicts college or professional sport logos/mascots is
      - i. prohibited.(e.g. C.S.U.F. Bulldogs, Georgetown, Hoyas, Raiders, etc. attire is not allowed.). Clothing that depicts the names, insignias, or logos associated primarily with college or university academic programs and is not associated with gangs or otherwise conflict with the standards of acceptable apparel is permitted (e.g. C.S.U.F., Stanford, Harvard, etc.).
    - b. Backpacks shall be neat, clean, and free of any student writing except
      - i. students proper name may be displayed once for identification purposes.
  2. Earrings are to be worn in ears only. No facial or tongue piercing is allowed. Exception: small stud on side of nose is allowed.
  3. Hair style shall be clean and neatly groomed. Haircuts or hairstyles that draw undue attention to the wearer or detract from the educational process are not acceptable (i.e. unusual designs, colors, symbols, razor cuts, and the like.)
  4. Attire that may be used as a weapon may not be worn (e.g. steel-toed boots, chains, items with spikes or studs, etc.)
  5. Pupils shall not display any material or paraphernalia which incites a disruption of the school process or creates a clear and present danger of either the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of District or school site

policies or rules.

6. Gang-related apparel or paraphernalia, including symbols, emblems, insignias, or other gang identifiers, may not be worn or displayed. This rule prohibits the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute denotes membership in or affiliation with gangs. In case of doubt as to whether an item is gang related, the principal or designee will consult with law enforcement or other school personnel with expertise in gangs.
7. Any apparel, hairstyle, cosmetics, accessory, or jewelry, even if not specifically mentioned above, that creates a safety or health concern or tends to detract from the education process, is prohibited.
8. All tattoos must be covered at all times.

Limited written exceptions to the district dress code policy may be made by the principal for special days, special events, or other unusual circumstances. Copies of this policy shall be given to students. Student violations of these regulations are deemed willful defiance of the valid authority of the school principal, punishable as follows:

a. First Offense:

- 1) Verbal warning and counseling/Parent notification;
- 2) The parent will be notified to bring acceptable clothing or the student will be supplied with a suitable garment from the site, if available;
- 3) Documentation of incident;
- 4) Parent/Student will be given a copy of dress code regulation as reference for future use. Parent must sign the form and the student must return the signed form on the following day. If the student does not return the form, he/she will have up to one day in the Responsibility Center (7-12) or abbreviated recess (K-6).

b. Second Offense:

- 1) Parent Conference (verbal phone or in person);
- 2) Parent will be notified to bring acceptable clothing or the student will be supplied with a suitable garment from the site, if available;
- 3) One day in the Responsibility Center (7-12) or abbreviated recess (K-6);
- 4) Documentation of incident;
- 5) Parent/Student will be given a copy of dress code regulation as reference for future use.

c. Third Offense:

- 1) Parent Conference;
- 2) The parent will be notified to bring acceptable clothing or will be supplied with a suitable garment from the site, if available;
- 3) One day Responsibility Center (7-12) or abbreviated recess (K-6) and one day Saturday school;
- 4) Parent/Student will be given a copy of the dress regulations as a reference for future use or will acknowledge his/her prior receipt of dress code regulations.

d. Fourth Offense:

- 1) Parent conference;
- 2) One to five days suspension;
- 3) Student contract.

e. Fifth Offense:

- 1) Parent
- 2) Revised: January conference;
- 3) One to five days suspension and possible recommendation for alternative placement.

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE sections 35183, 35291.5, 48900, 48907, and 48950. CODE OF REGULATIONS, Section 302; Regulation approved: June 28, 1984 Last Revision: 3/24/15; 3/14/17*

**§35183-35183.5 Dress Code/Use of Sunscreen**

Authorizes a school district to adopt a reasonable dress code that requires pupils to wear a school wide uniform or prohibits the wearing of gang related clothing. Each school will also allow for the outdoor use during the school day, articles of sun protective clothing, including, but not limited to hats. Each school site shall allow pupils the use of sunscreen during the school day without a physician's note or prescription. Each school site may set policy related to the use of sunscreen by pupils during the school day. For purposes of this subdivision, sunscreen is not an over-the-counter medication.