

# POLICY

2017  
STUDENTS

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## **SUBJECT: STUDENT DRESS CODE**

The responsibility for appropriate dress and appearance of students should rest with the individual students and parents provided that such attire is not destructive to District property, complies with requirements for health and safety, does not interfere with or distract from the educational process, or impinge upon the rights of others. The administration is authorized to take action in instances where individual dress does not meet these stated requirements.

While the school administration may require students participating in Physical Education classes to wear certain types of clothing such as sneakers, socks, shorts, and tee shirts, they may not prescribe a specific brand which students must buy. Uniforms or other safety equipment/attire may be required for specific programs.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails, shall:

- a) Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational program.
- b) Recognize that extremely brief or see-through garments are not appropriate.
- c) Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.
- d) Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
- e) Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, or libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, age, political affiliation, sexual orientation, or use of a recognized guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, gender or disability.
- f) Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities;
- g) Shorts or skirts above mid-thigh length;
- h) Tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, mesh shirts, midriff shirts; and/or
- i) Hats of any style other than in the corridors.

The Massena Central School District recognizes that graduation is an important milestone in the lives of our students and, as such, the following guidelines are set for graduation. These guidelines reflect appropriate community standards, customs and the proper decorum required at such ceremonies. All students participating in the commencement ceremony shall be dressed in the standard cap and gown; however, Native American students may have a choice of wearing either the standard cap and gown or their "traditional native Ceremonial Dress" upon approval by the building principal. This approval must be secured not later than June 1 of the year of graduation. All students may be allowed to wear outer stoles or cords representing honors which have been bestowed upon them and/or stoles which may represent their heritage. However, all stoles or cords must be approved by the administration prior to June 1.

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Each Building Principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year. Additional details about dress code may be addressed in building student handbooks.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with the acceptable item. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out of school suspension.

School Law 12:80, 26th Edition  
Massena Central School District  
Student Handbooks

Adopted: 2-16-17