

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

BP 5132

Students

Dress Code

Dress and Grooming

~~Article 1, section 28 (e) of the California Constitution states: “All students and staff of public primary, elementary, junior high and senior high schools have the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure and peaceful.” The Board of education is therefore legally and morally responsible for the establishment free from violence or the threats of violence and intimidation by gangs, gang alcohol use, profanity, and bigotry and/or intolerance against people on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual preference.~~

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 Board of Education ~~accepts its responsibility~~seeks to provide educational experiences which assure ~~that~~ students ~~academic preparedness and acceptance of~~are academically prepared, that they accept civic and social responsibilities and ~~qualify them that they are qualified~~ for future entry into the ~~work place. It believes that the workplace. The~~ clothing and accessories worn by students and staff ~~impact the Students who dress in an appropriate manner make a statement by their appearance~~should reflect the serious goals of an academic environment.

~~The Superintendent shall develop and implement regulations staff training to insure fair and equitable implementation of this policy. This policy shall be uniformly applied at all schools. School sites shall involve faculty, students, parents, and the community at large in the implementation and enforcement of this policy~~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.

08/25/04

Standards for Dress

Gang-Related Apparel

In accordance with the California Constitution, all students and Appearance

Students shall at all times dress staff of public primary, elementary, junior high and groom themselves in senior high schools have a manner right to attend campuses which is consistent with the District's educational goal of providing safe and secure schools and which demonstrates respect for the seriousness appropriate in a learning environment are safe, secure and peaceful. Where there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities, the Board of Education authorizes the principal, staff and parents/guardians at the school to establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel.

Wearing or possession of clothing, jewelry, or accessories, or any manner of grooming, which by nature of its color, arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute, denotes membership or identification with a gang is strictly prohibited. Such a dress code may be included as part of the school 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.

~~Students shall not wear clothing or jewelry which promotes drug or alcohol use or violence, profanity, bigotry or intolerance against people on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual preference, or which incorporates profanity. For example, students may not wear T-shirts with designs or wording that demeans people on the basis of race or sex or jewelry which incorporates swastikas.~~

~~Hair nets, curlers, pajamas, sleeping attire, and loose slippers are not to be worn at school.~~

~~Students shall not wear clothing which is designed or altered to expose undergarments or parts of the body except arms and legs or is otherwise inappropriate for the school environment. Undergarments shall not be worn as outer wear. Students may not wear smooth fabric jogging suits, which are a leading symbol worn by gang members and drug dealers.~~

~~Headgear, hats and visors may be worn, but are to be removed at all times when entering school buildings. Exceptions will be made for students who must cover their heads for medical or religious reasons.~~

~~Students are not to wear clothing designating membership in non-school organizations or private clubs. Official school sweaters, jackets, athletic suits, ROTC uniforms, etc.~~

Uniforms

In order to promote student safety and discourage theft, peer rivalry and/or gang activity, the principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code requiring students to wear uniforms. Such a dress code may be included as part of the school 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.

If a school's plan to require uniforms is adopted, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are permitted. Officially recognized community organization uniforms may be worn upon approval of the school principal.

~~In accordance with State law and District policy students may not possess electronic signaling devices, cell phones, or "beepers" on District campuses, except as allowed by law. Likewise, students shall not bring radios, tapes recorders, or compact disc players onto District campuses without the explicit permission of the school's principal or designee, or by a teacher who authorizes the use of such a device for a classroom educational purpose.~~

~~Students are discouraged from wearing expensive clothing or jewelry or bringing expensive personal items to school. Such items have been stolen from some identified to assist economically disadvantaged students. In extreme cases students have been accosted on their way to or from school and such items have been taken from them. The Districts is not responsible for the loss of students' personal property in obtaining uniforms.~~

Procedure

- ~~1. If a student is suspected of violating this policy, the violation shall be reported to the principal or designee.~~
- ~~2. The principal or designee shall observe the student and make an initial determination that the student may be violating the dress code.~~
- ~~3. If a violation is observed, the principal or designee shall discuss the matter with the student.~~
- ~~4. The student shall have the opportunity to rebut the contention that the dress code has been violated. If the principal or designee concludes that a violation has occurred, the student shall be asked to remove the clothing or jewelry until the~~

~~end of the school day. At that time, the item will be returned to the student and the student will be directed not to wear the item in the future. If removal of the clothing may prove embarrassing to the student, the principal or designee shall attempt to contact his or her parent, guardian, or other caregiver and direct the student to return home to change the clothing.~~

~~5. Parents, guardians, or other caregivers of students who violate this policy will be notified either in writing or by telephone. The parent will be requested to meet with the principal or designee to discuss the violation.~~

~~6. Any student who repeatedly violates the dress code may be subject to more extreme disciplinary action.~~

~~Any student wearing clothing, jewelry and/or accessories, with symbols, or wording, that promotes gangs, gang identification, profanity, violence, drug or alcohol use, and/or denigrates people on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual preference, shall be referred to the principal or designee. The student's parent/guardian/caregiver shall be contacted. The following actions shall be taken:~~

~~First Offense: Parent conference and student will be sent home to change clothes if necessary.~~

~~Second Offense: Parent conference and student will be required to spend the equivalent time of a class period in a class that focuses on non-violent solutions to conflict. Parent will be encouraged to attend the class.~~

~~Third Offense: Suspended suspension and student will be assigned to detention or work detail. Parent will be asked to visit the campus and participate in a parenting class which will involve two hours of actual campus observation or supervision.~~

~~Fourth and
Subsequent~~

~~Offenses: Suspension and possible recommendation for placement in alternative program.~~

~~Disciplinary problems shall be handled as individual problems and not labeled as gang problems.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff inservice training in gang recognition and communication to all staff current symbols of gang membership.~~

~~In order to refrain from giving gangs publicity, any gang graffiti shall be quietly removed, washed down or painted over as soon as discovered.~~

~~The Board recognizes that gang symbols, regalia and gestures are subject to change. Therefore, the Superintendent shall maintain contact with the appropriate criminal justice authorities to insure that such changes are reported to the Board in a timely manner so that this body may have the opportunity to review and amend this policy where it deems appropriate. The Superintendent shall insure that any changes in this Board policy will be appropriately noted in the procedures and guidelines governing staff in-service training.~~

~~Proof of age shall be required of all enrolling students. The legal evidences of age, in order of desirability, are a birth certificate, baptismal certificate, passport, immigration certificate, Bible record, or affidavit from the parent/guardian.~~

~~A child who will reach the age of five on or before December 2 of the school year shall be eligible for enrollment in kindergarten at the beginning of that school year or at any later time in the same year. (Education Code 48000)~~

~~A child who will reach the age of five on or before December 2 of the school year shall be eligible for enrollment in the district pre-kindergarten summer program. (Education Code 48000)~~

~~A child who will have reached the age of six years on or before December 2 of the current school year shall be eligible for enrollment in the first grade. (Education Code 48010)~~

~~Early Entry to Kindergarten~~

~~A child who becomes five years old after December 2 may be admitted into kindergarten, with parental approval, at any time after his/her fifth birthday during the school year when the Superintendent or designee determines on a case-by-case basis that such admittance is in the child's best interests.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall provide parents/guardians with information as to the effects, advantages and disadvantages of early entry into kindergarten. (Education Code 48000)~~

~~Classroom space must be available, and the class size cap specified in certificated negotiated agreements may not be exceeded.~~

~~(cf. 5123—Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)~~

8/25/04; 5/28/08A