

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Administrative Regulation

AR 5132
Students

Dress Code

Standards for Dress and Appearance Grooming

Students shall at all times dress and groom themselves in a manner 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. In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Governing Board policy and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed and at least once per semester.

~~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.~~The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

- ~~1. 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~~Shoes must be worn at all times. Sandals must have heel straps. Flip flops or backless shoes or sandals are not acceptable.
- ~~2. Hair nets, curlers, pajamas, sleeping attire, and loose slippers are not to be worn at school~~Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol or tobacco company advertising, promotions and likenesses, or which advocate prejudice on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.
- ~~3. 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~~Hats, caps or other head coverings shall not be worn indoors unless it is necessary for medical or religious reasons.

4. ~~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. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through or fish-net fabrics, halter tops, off-the-shoulder or low-cut tops, bare midriffs and skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are prohibited.~~
5. ~~Students are not to wear clothing designating membership in non-school organizations or private clubs. Official school sweaters, jackets, athletic suits, ROTC uniforms, etc. are permitted. Officially recognized community organization uniforms may be worn upon approval of the school principal. Gym shorts may not be worn in classes other than physical education.~~
6. ~~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. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Hair may not be sprayed by any coloring that would drip when wet.~~
7. ~~Students are discouraged from wearing expensive clothing or jewelry or bringing expensive personal items to school. Such items have been stolen from some 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. Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the day.~~

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.~~

~~If a violation is observed~~

Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes. No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student’s control.

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

Gang-Related Apparel

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define “gang-related apparel” and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus.

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.

Uniforms

In schools where a school wide uniform is required, the principal, staff and parents/guardians of the individual school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn.

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting.

- ~~3. Where practicable, the principal or designee shall discuss the matter with the student.~~
- ~~4. The student shall have the opportunity to rebut the contention that also repeat this notification at 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 year so that parents/guardians are reminded before school clothes are likely 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 purchased for the following actions shall be taken: school year.~~

~~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 inservice training.~~

~~08/25/04~~

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The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

8/25/04; 5/28/98A