

CODE: JICA

STUDENT DRESS

The School Committee recognizes that responsibility for the dress and appearance of students rests with individual students and their parent(s)/guardian(s). While the School Committee recognizes that students' mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference, it believes that reasonable regulation of student dress and adornment is consistent with its responsibility to maintain an environment conducive to student learning. The School Committee will not interfere with the personal choices of students unless they create a disruptive influence on the educational program or affect the health, safety or dignity of others.

Students are encouraged to use sound judgment and reflect respect for themselves and others in choices of dress and grooming. In keeping with the goals of the school unit to provide an effective, safe, healthy and non-discriminatory learning environment the following restrictions on dress shall be enforced:

- A. Articles of clothing that promote the use of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs may not be worn on school grounds when school is in session or when participating in or attending school-sponsored activities.
- B. Clothing, footwear, insignia or accessories that are intended to identify the wearer as a member of a particular gang are prohibited.
- C. Clothing that draws undue attention to the wearer so as to detract from the educational process including clothing that is immodest, revealing or sexually suggestive is not permitted.
- D. Wearing of clothing with displays that are vulgar, lewd or indecent or include insulting words (e.g., racial/ethnic slurs) is prohibited.
- E. Clothing and accessories that are destructive of school property (e.g., cleats, pants with metal inserts that scratch furniture) are not permitted.

For health and safety reasons, school administrators and teachers may require special clothing for students particularly in physical education, certain co-curricular activities, or in classes using machinery and equipment.

Coaches and advisors may set more stringent standards of dress for players and participants.

The Superintendent is responsible for the development of any administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

Student handbooks shall include examples of prohibited clothing, footwear, and accessories.

The building principal shall be responsible for enforcement of this policy and shall have the authority to determine appropriateness of dress. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Adopted: April 16, 1986

Revised: July 5, 1994; October 7, 1997; June 5, 2012

