

## DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education believes that dress and grooming for school should reflect the importance of education and encourages parents to ensure that their students' attire reflects that belief.

It is the responsibility of the school to provide and maintain conditions under which learning can take place most effectively. The purpose concerning student dress is not to produce conformity of appearance, but to create a climate for learning and the elimination of distracting or disruptive elements. The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference and will impose its judgment only when students' dress and/or grooming affect the educational programs of the schools.

The Board authorizes school regulations which prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

- A. Present a hazard to health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school;
- B. Materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. Prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

The Board prohibits any student from wearing on school property or at District-run or authorized events, any type of clothing, apparel or accessories which indicate that the student has membership in or affiliation with a gang associated with criminal activities.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which designate the Principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building and which instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty and good sense in attire and appearance.

<b>Legal References:</b>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General Mandatory powers and Duties of the Board
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-9	Prohibition of gang-related apparel
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:37-1	Submission of students to authority

<b>Cross References:</b>	*5131	Conduct and discipline
	5131.1	Sexual harassment
	5131.2	Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
	5131.9	Threats sent via modern technology

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

### **Key Words**

Grooming, Student Dress, ***Gang Related Apparel***

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