

ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT # 58

In order to ensure academic excellence, ethical behavior and personal responsibility, dress will be of a nature that sets a school-wide tone of caring about personal pride, school pride, and the courteous customs of the society in which we live. The purpose of this policy is to model and promote a safe, productive, and professional environment for students, staff and community. This policy will apply equally and without bias based on race, color, religion, national origin, disability, and/or age. This policy will apply equally to female and male.

Requests for clothing and/or appearance change, assignment of discipline referrals and general discipline policies will be used as the enforcement tools of this policy. Pursuant to the above philosophy and in an attempt to create a workable and enforceable standard of dress, the following guidelines are delineated:

A. **GENERAL:** Clothing should always be clean, mended, and suitable to body size and in good taste. Clothing including shirts, book bags, backpacks, accessories (including notebooks and binders) with messages, writing, graffiti, and or insignia which advertise, endorse, and/or promote drugs, tobacco, alcohol, profanity, illegal activities, racially derogatory or “hate group” references, Satanism, death, or destruction, violence, shock-rock, sadism, gangs, racial, separatism, and sexual innuendo are not permitted at any time.

B. **CLOTHING:** Pants/slacks are to be worn at the waist. Belts are not required, but if worn, must be in belt loops and are not to hang down. Pants that cannot be held up without a belt are forbidden. Bib-type overalls/coveralls shall be worn in an appropriate, safe fastened manner. No extremely tight-fitting clothing will be worn. Clothes must conceal undergarments at all times. See-through, mesh, and/or fishnet fabrics, haltertops, spaghetti straps, off the shoulder or low cut tops, bare midriffs, and skirts and shorts shorter than finger-tip lengths are prohibited. Clothing that is unduly revealing or attire, which detracts in any way from the educational mission of the schools’ instructional program, is unacceptable. Jackets and coats will not be worn to class. (The exception shall be that if the building does not have lockers for the students; e.g. middle school students taking classes at the high school.)

C. **INSIGNIA:** Insignia are unacceptable in any form if they contain words, symbols, messages, styles, or gang symbols, logos, obscene symbols, signs, and slogans or emblems which degrade gender, religion, culture, sexual orientation, ethnic values. Example include, but are not limited to: Bloods, Crips, Sur 13, South Side, West Side, Tongs, Klan, Happy-Sad Faces, Roll of the Dice, Homies, Skin Heads, Fighting, Nazis, White Pride, Brown Pride, Cigarettes, Alcohol, Drug Paraphernalia, 8-Balls, Tobacco Products, and Marilyn Manson.

D. **HEAD COVERINGS AND HATS:** During school hours, all head coverings are unacceptable for all students and staff while indoors, with the exception of head coverings for medical purpose or religious observance.

E. **ACCESSORIES:**

1. Belts must be in the belt loops and are not to be hanging from the waist.

2. Accessories having studs or spikes (including metal) are prohibited. All pet paraphernalia is prohibited.
3. Chains, including wallets which have a chain attached are prohibited.
4. Jewelry, which could inflict bodily harm, be used for drug paraphernalia, or constructed as a weapon, is prohibited. No jewelry is to be worn that has references to sex, drugs, alcohol, gangs, or any of other insignias et cetera as outlined in Sections A and C.
5. Shoes must be worn at all times.
6. Visible body piercing such as face, eyebrows, arms, tongue, hands, and feet, or jewelry that could inflict bodily harm to self or others is prohibited.
7. No gang-related, profane or vulgar language, symbols or insignias et cetre (See Sections A and C above) are to be cut into hair or tattooed or cut into skin. All permanent marks must be covered.
8. Bandannas are prohibited as attire in the school building

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS:

This policy will be in effect during all school hours and regular workdays and at all school sponsored activities and events.

Coaches and teachers, with the approval of the individual school site administration, may impose dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of participants in certain sports, classes, and other activities.

The Administration of the individual school site or district department has the authority to set the mood of the attire for “special occasion” days.

The Administration of the individual school site or district department shall have the discretion to determine if a student, staff member, or employee’s attire, hair, and/or grooming is acceptable and within appropriate standards.

The Aberdeen School District # 58 Board of Trustees will review this policy annually and has the authority to amend the policy as necessary throughout the year.

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ADOPTED: June 19, 1999