

# SOUTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRESS AND GROOMING

ADOPTED: September 20, 2001

REVISED: November 19, 2014

221. DRESS AND GROOMING	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 12.11  SC 1317.3  Title 22 Sec. 12.11	<p>The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or affect the health and safety of others.</p> <p>The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school.</p> <p>Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Board authorizes the building principal or designee to monitor student dress and grooming and enforce school rules prohibiting student dress or grooming practices which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others in the school.</li> <li>2. Materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program.</li> <li>3. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property.</li> <li>4. Prevent the student from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.</li> </ol>
Pol. 325, 425, 525	Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate by example positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

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<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.11</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>With these considerations in mind, the following items represent acceptable and unacceptable wearing apparel for a student of the district. Interpretation of the dress code shall be delegated solely to the administration, and the administration's interpretation shall be final and binding.</p> <p><u>Footwear:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Acceptable footwear includes dress shoes, tennis shoes, casual shoes (normal school shoes) and thongs/flip flops (leather or rubber).</li><li>2. Unacceptable footwear includes shower-style/type shoes and slippers (unless for medical reasons) and any footwear that fails to meet safety requirements or creates a hazard</li></ol> <p><u>Socks</u> – Any style/type of socks may be worn.</p> <p><u>Shorts/Skorts:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Acceptable shorts/skorts are dress shorts, walking shorts, cotton or denim shorts, and must cover the student's leg to mid thigh.</li><li>2. Unacceptable shorts/skorts are spandex shorts, cutoff sweats/jeans, any skin tight exercise wear such as; spandex, leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, cycling pants, or boxer (underwear) style, and any exercise/running style shorts, (Soffe, Under Armor, etc.)</li></ol> <p><u>Slacks/Pants:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Acceptable slacks/pants are dress, casual, and/or denim.</li><li>2. Unacceptable slacks/pants include: see through or mesh materials, any type torn/ripped/cut/holed above mid thigh, and any skin tight material that reveals or could reveal undergarments. Prohibited as an outer garment are any tight exercise style clothing described as: yoga pants, leggings, jeggings, footless tights, etc., including velour and spandex materials. If leggings are worn, coverage to mid-thigh is required, both front and rear coverage. <b>Students in grades k through five will be permitted to wear stretch pants.</b></li><li>3. Unacceptable pants include oversized pants which reveal undergarments or pants that drag on the floor.</li></ol>

Skirts:

1. Acceptable skirts include all styles/types that provide full coverage to mid thigh.
2. Unacceptable skirts are any skirt above midthigh.

Cheerleading uniforms are an exception to this rule and may be worn only on game days or for pep assemblies.

Shirts:

1. Acceptable shirts are sweaters, blouses, jerseys, sweatshirts, and/or shirts.
2. Unacceptable shirts are any that advertise/advocate beer, alcohol, tobacco/tobacco products, drugs/drug-related subjects, profanity, offensive pictures/words.
3. Unacceptable shirts include white tank style undershirts, tube tops, mesh shirts, see-through/sheer materials, chest/cleavage revealing low-cut styles, shirts that reveal the stomach or back (backless), half-shirts, tank tops, single shoulder, and sleeveless shirts. All student clothing is required to have a sleeve and ensure that undergarments are not visible. **Dresses without sleeves are permitted but must be the width of the student's own two fingers.**

Sleeveless shirts, half-shirts, tube tops, tank tops, and mesh shirts may be worn with an overshirt which is buttoned at all times.

Unacceptable School Wear:

1. Sunglasses, hats and outer apparel.
2. Sweatbands/bandannas/handkerchiefs worn over the head.
3. Chains.
4. Dog collars.
5. Clothing or objects that suggest identification with a gang.
6. Winter weight coats will not be worn inside the classroom.

7. Specialty exercise wear is generally prohibited as school appropriate clothing.
8. Sleepwear/pajamas are not school appropriate clothing.
9. Backpacks are not permitted to be used between classes.

**Generally:**

Cheerleading and sports team uniforms are an exception to these rules and may be worn with the approval of the Principal.

A student should not wear clothing or any accessory that is revealing and a distraction or a disruption to the educational process.

**Discipline Process:**

Any student choosing clothing that does not meet the above standards will be directed to replace/remove it or contact their home for a change of clothing. While waiting for a change of clothing in compliance with the dress code policy or lacking a home response option, students will be supervised and isolated in an assigned area. The School District reserves the right to send home students whose attire is deemed disruptive to the educational process of other students. Repeated dress code violations become level II violations and are addressed in that category.

School District Administrators will make the final determination on whether any clothing item meets the policy standards.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1317.3

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.11

Board Policy – 325, 425, 525