

Document Status: Draft Update

STUDENTS

7:160 Student Appearance

Appropriate student appearance is the responsibility of each student and the student's family. Appearance must not disrupt the educational process, or compromise standards of health and safety. The District does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, ~~or any other protected classes under Board policy 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities,~~ including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists, nor does it prohibit hairstyles historically associated with any other protected status under Board policy 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities. ^{PRESSPlus1} The District also does not prohibit the right of a student to wear or accessorize the student's graduation attire with items associated with the student's cultural, ethnic, or religious identity or other characteristic or category protected under the Ill. Human Rights Act, [775 ILCS 5/1-103\(Q\)](#). Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance. Students with inappropriate clothing will be asked to change. If needed, the families will be contacted to bring a change of clothes. Expectations for appropriate student appearance are in effect for all school-related activities (i.e. after-school sporting events, dances, etc.). Judgement of disruption is at the discretion of building administration. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in disciplinary action and/or family notification. Specific guidelines are:

- Clothing/accessories and/or appearance that is suggestive, revealing, indecent, or depicts violent behavior are not permitted;
- Clothing/accessories and/or appearance that creates a health or safety concern, or will damage school property are not permitted;
- Clothing and/or accessories and/or appearance that substantially disrupts the educational environment are not permitted;
- Apparel that promote or advertises drugs, alcohol, tobacco products or other inappropriate activities are not permitted;
- Derogatory or inflammatory insignia, symbols or words which refer to any race, sex, religion, or nationality is not permitted;
- Coats, hats, head coverings of any kind (except that of established religious groups and/or personal health reasons) and gloves may not be worn in the building without administrative approval;
- Students must be covered from shoulders to mid-thigh. Clothing must completely cover the midsection. Undergarments must not be visible;
- Footwear must be worn at all times.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/2-3.25](#) and [5/10-22.25b](#).

[Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Sch. Dist.](#), 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities),

7:190 (Student Behavior)

Adopted: January 17, 2024

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated for continuous improvement and to align with policy 7:165, *School Uniforms*. **Issue 117, October 2024**