

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC First Reading of Policy FNCA (LOCAL): Student Conduct – Dress Code

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria Rendon **OF:** Asst. to the Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: May 21, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve First Reading of Policy FNCA (LOCAL): Student Conduct – Dress Code

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

STUDENT CONDUCT
DRESS CODE

FNCA
(LOCAL)

PURPOSE

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others. The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal's judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations.

The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings on clothing that:

1. Are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene.
2. Advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited under FNCF(LEGAL).

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the general guidelines set out above and with the student dress code outlined in the student handbook.

OUTERWEAR

For purposes of maintaining school safety, long coats extending below mid-thigh, including but not limited to, trench coats, shall not be permitted.

In addition, for purposes of maintaining standardized dress, all sweatshirts, jackets, sweaters, and sweater vests must be worn over a standard dress-approved shirt. Any ~~jacket, sweater, etc.,~~ **outer garment** shall be appropriately sized in the shoulders, sleeves, and length.

For elementary, **middle and high school** students: ~~outerwear garments (jackets, and sweaters)~~, **sweater vests** and sweatshirts with hood/hoodie (**with or without zipper**) are permitted; however, **the hood/hoodie** will not be worn in the school building.

~~For secondary students: outerwear garments (jackets and sweaters) or sweatshirts with hoods shall not be permitted on school property.~~

FOOTWEAR

Students shall wear appropriate footwear. Students shall not wear house slippers, flip flops, or other footwear that constitutes a safety hazard. Students are also prohibited from wearing steel-toed boots, shoes and skate shoes to school.

UNIFORMS FOR
STUDENTS PRE-K-
GRADE 12

In an effort to improve student learning and to facilitate a safe learning environment, the District is mandating student uniforms for students in prekindergarten-grade 12. Student uniforms will ensure that campuses are able to easily identify their students to better secure the campus.

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Effective with the 2007–08 school year, the District shall require all students in prekindergarten–grade 12 to wear a school uniform. All clothing must adhere to the standards set out below. All garments must be in an approved color as per the guidelines established in this policy.

Students in prekindergarten–grade 12 shall wear the approved school uniform unless the parent or guardian has filed and been granted an exemption in accordance FNCA(LEGAL), (LOCAL), and (EXHIBIT).

Uniforms are defined in this policy as one or more specific kinds of articles of clothing commonly available at a variety of retail outlets that are required to be worn by students during normal school hours.

Uniforms consisting of khaki, navy blue, or black solid shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, capris, and trousers with solid white or navy blue long-or short-sleeved blouses or shirts with collars shall be worn by all students enrolled in each District elementary, middle school, and high school. A solid navy, white, or designated high school color also applies to optional undershirt/turtleneck. In addition, students in high school have an option of also wearing the designated school color shirt or blouse (with a collar and sleeves) noted as the following:

United High School: Orange

Alexander High School: Gold

United South High School: Carolina Blue

L.B. Johnson High School: Purple

Students wearing uniforms and uniform components must also conform to the other dress code requirements listed in the Student Code of Conduct/student handbook.

UNIFORM
SPECIFICATIONS

Uniform specifications are as follows:

1. Khaki, navy blue, or black solid shorts, skirts, skorts, capris and jumpers must fit well and not be oversized or undersized. Attire must fit at the waist and must not sag. **Pants/shorts** with loops shall require belts for students in grades 3–12.
2. Uniform pants/shorts, skirts, capris, skorts pockets must be the standard front pockets. Baggies, low-rise, or loose-fit pants **shall will** not be permitted. Jeans, denim **pants**, cargo **pants**, carpenter **pants**, painter **pants**, overalls, bell bottoms, or wide-leg styles **pants** are not **standard** uniform **pants** and are not permitted.

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3. Shorts, skirts, and skorts must be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Slits on garments shall be no more than three inches above the knee.
4. Leggings/tights are allowed under attire that meets uniform specifications. Leggings/tights shall only be solid navy, black or white.
5. No visible drawstrings shall be allowed on pants, shorts, skorts, or capris.
6. Shirts **and outerwear** must fit well and not be oversized or undersized. Shirts must have collars and may be polo-style or dress-style. Turtlenecks shall be allowed. Manufacturers' logos/ trademarks, if any, must be one inch or less. Snaps or zippers on shirts shall not be allowed.
7. All shirts must be tucked in.
8. **Any color will be permitted on Θ outerwear garments for elementary, middle and high school: (jackets, and sweaters, sweater vests and sweatshirts with hood/hoodie (with or without zipper). ~~must be solid navy, white, khaki, brown, or the designated school color.~~ Official letterman jackets, school jackets, and school logos on outerwear garments are permitted provided such jackets or logos correspond with the school in which such garments are worn. **The hood/hoodie will not be allowed to be worn in the school building.****

PARENT / STUDENT NOTIFICATION

The principal shall notify students and parents regarding the implementation of the uniform policy at least 90 days prior to the effective date.

FUNDING

The Superintendent shall maintain federal and local compensatory funds available for the clothing needs of educationally disadvantaged students who cannot afford to purchase the uniforms. Any funds donated for the purpose of purchasing uniforms shall be set aside and used only for that purpose.

EXEMPTIONS

A parent or guardian may request that his or her child be exempted from the uniform requirement by submitting a written statement on the philosophical or religious objections to the uniform requirement. The procedures are outlined in FNCA(EXHIBIT). Students must comply with the uniform requirement until such time as an exemption is granted. Exemptions shall expire at the end of each school year.

Students for whom exemptions are granted must conform to the other dress code requirements listed in the Student Code of Conduct and student handbook.

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NONDISCRIMINATION	District or campus personnel shall not discriminate against any student who has been exempted from the mandatory use of uniforms.
SPECIAL OCCASION DAYS	If approved by the Superintendent or designee, the principal shall be authorized to allow all or part of the student body to vary from the uniform and establish a particular mode of attire for special occasion days or for particular school-sponsored or school-related activities.
NEW STUDENTS	Students who are new to the District shall be allowed to be excused from wearing a school uniform for a maximum of five school days to allow them to make arrangements in acquiring the uniform/uniform components. In extenuating circumstances, this period may be extended at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate dress and grooming standards established for such an activity may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor, and may be subject to other disciplinary action, as specified in the Student Code of Conduct. [See FO series]

REVISED: April 28, 2008