



# UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION ITEM

**TOPIC:** Discussion/Action to Approve Modified Student Dress Code for students in grades 9-12: FNCA (LOCAL): Student Conduct Dress Code

**SUBMITTED BY:** Gloria S. Rendon **OF:** Deputy Superintendent for Administration

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:** August 10, 2021

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**RATIONALE:**

**BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

**BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE: FNCA LOCAL and FNCA Regulation**

<b>Purpose</b>	The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority.
<b>General Guidelines</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings on clothing that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene.</li><li>Advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited under FNCF(LEGAL).</li></ul> <p>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 Code of Conduct and student handbook.</p>
<b>Outerwear</b>	<p>For purposes of maintaining school safety, long coats extending below mid-thigh, including but not limited to, trench coats, shall not be permitted.</p> <p>In addition, for purposes of maintaining standardized dress, all sweatshirts, jackets, sweaters, and sweater vests must be worn over a standard dress-approved shirt/blouse. Any outerwear garment shall be appropriately sized at the shoulders, sleeves, and length.</p> <p>Students in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades 1–5 shall be allowed to wear outerwear garments such as jackets, sweaters, sweater vests, and sweatshirts with or without hoods/hoodies and with or without buttons or zippers in any color; however, students shall not be allowed to wear any type of hood/hoodie inside the school building.</p> <p>Students at the secondary level shall be allowed to wear outerwear garments such as jackets, cardigans, or sweatshirts with or without hoods/hoodies, in any color. Students shall not be allowed to wear any type of hood/hoodie inside the school building. Official letterman jackets, school jackets, and school logos on outerwear garments shall be permitted.</p> <p>V-neck sweaters, crew neck sweaters, and sweater vests shall be allowed in the appropriate color, including navy, white, and the high school designated color.</p>

**Footwear**

Students shall be required to wear shoes with soles. Students shall not wear house slippers, flip flops, **athletic slides**, or other footwear that constitutes a safety hazard. Students shall also be prohibited from wearing steel-toed boots, shoes, and skate shoes to school.

**Uniforms for  
Students Pre-  
K–Grade ~~12~~ 8**

**For the 2021-2022 School Year, the District will not require standardized dress as noted in this policy for students in grades 9-12. A casual dress code will be implemented in these levels adhering to the guidelines in FNCA (Regulation).**

In an effort to improve student learning and to facilitate a safe learning environment, the District shall mandate student uniforms for students in prekindergarten–grade ~~12~~ 8. Student uniforms shall ensure that campuses are able to easily identify their students to better secure the campus.

The District shall require all students **in grades pk-8** 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.

A student shall wear the approved school uniform unless the student's 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 school, middle school, and high school. ~~A solid navy, white, or designated high school color shall also apply to optional undershirts/turtlenecks. In addition, students in high school shall have an option of also wearing the designated school color shirt or blouse (with a collar and sleeves) according to the following:~~

~~United High School—Orange~~

~~Alexander High School—Gold~~

~~United South High School—Carolina Blue~~

~~L.B. Johnson High School—Purple~~

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

Uniform  
Specifications

Uniform specifications are as follows:

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.

Uniform pants/shorts, skirts, capris, skorts, cargo style shorts or pants, and skinny style pants shall be permitted. Baggy or loose-fitting pants shall not be permitted. Jeans, denim pants, overalls, velour/sweat pants, warm-up pants, or wide-leg styled pants are not standard uniform pants and shall not be permitted.

Shorts, skirts, skorts, and jumpers/dresses must be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Slits on garments shall be no more than three inches above the knee.

Tights shall be allowed under attire that meets uniform specifications. Tights shall only be solid navy, black, or white; no embellishments shall be allowed.

Shirts 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. Sheer shirts shall not be allowed.

Spirit Shirts

Secondary students (**grades 6-8**) shall be permitted to wear school spirit or club/organization shirts with the designated name or mascot on any day of the week, provided that the shirt corresponds with the campus where the student is enrolled. All shirts must have sleeves and students must conform to all other dress code requirements in policy and administrative regulations.

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.

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

Non-Discrimination

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]

Students' dress and grooming are expected to ~~be in keeping with~~ conform with accepted community standards and not disrupt the educational environment. Failure to adhere to these standards may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and students may also be asked to change their attire. The following are standards for student dress and grooming:-

Shoes must be worn at all times.

~~Students in pre-kindergarten grade second grade2 may wear regular shorts.~~ Students in grades 9-12 may wear shorts that shall-but must meet the following standards:

Must be loose-fitting; no biking shorts, cutoffs, boxer shorts or combination thereof.

Must be hemmed or cuffed with no torn or frayed edges.

Length must be no shorter than five (5) inches from the knee.

~~Dresses or skirts must be no shorter than five (5) inches from the knee.~~

Dresses or skirts may be worn but must be no shorter than five (5) inches from the knee.

Tank tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, halter type blouses, backless shirts, or mesh shirts will not be permitted.

Items with provocative, offensive, violent, or drug-related pictures or slogans as determined by the campus principal will not be permitted. Items advertising pornography, drugs, alcoholic beverages or tobacco products ~~will not be permitted~~ are strictly prohibited.

No hats, caps, bandanas, hoods, wallet chains, or sunglasses will be allowed.

No type of clothing that has been torn or has holes will be allowed.

No sagging pants or shorts will be allowed.

No gang paraphernalia will be allowed.

Students shall wear appropriate undergarments under-beneath their clothing (covering private areas of the body).

All students are expected to meet community standards and school policies with regard to health, cleanliness and appearance. All safety rules must be obeyed. [See FNCA(LOCAL)]