

Students

Dress and Grooming

The community and general public often judge the quality of education by the behavior, appearance and activities of its student body. The results of one's dress, appearance and behavior generally go far beyond the individual student.

In general, attire and grooming of individual students in this school system are the responsibility of the students and their parents. There are, however, general principles of good taste and modesty which must and shall be observed.

Students' overall appearance should fall within the generally accepted definitions of neatness and cleanliness. Generally, the students are expected to dress and groom themselves for the business of school so as to neither distract other students or teachers, disrupt the education process, or pose a health or safety threat to anyone. Clothing should be clean, untorn, free from promotion of, or reference to drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and offensive signs, symbols or words. Clothing should also be free of slogans, names, titles or the like which are defamatory toward person(s), group(s), the school or other organizations or which are likely to incite or inflame.

Students whose dress or grooming is judged by the staff to be distracting, disruptive, or dangerous to personal safety will be subject to administrative action.

The intent of this policy is to encourage all concerned to dress, groom and conduct themselves in keeping with an atmosphere which reflects a sensitivity to and respect for self and others and the overall functions of the school.

Examples of inappropriate clothing prohibited include, but are not limited to:

- Shoes, boots or sneakers which mark the floor
- "See through" style and/or mesh style shirts, blouses, midriff tops, and/or revealing garments
- Underwear worn as outerwear
- Short shorts and/or revealing shorts and/or skirts
- Face-coverings except those worn for established religious customs
- Sunglasses
- Any article of clothing (including jackets, shoes, hats and bandannas), jewelry, or other item which is identifiable as a known symbol of gang membership or affiliation
- Any accessories or clothing with spikes
- Sweatshirt hoods worn over one's head

At the secondary level (6-12) it is strongly recommended that clothing which is worn in physical education shall not be worn in other classes or parts of the school nor shall clothing worn in regular classes be worn in physical education. Physical education teachers will specify the kind of clothing appropriate for their activity.

Students

Dress and Grooming (continued)

Enforcement of Prohibited Attire

Students whose dress and grooming does not conform to these standards will be referred to the Principal or his/her designee who will inform students of necessary changes in dress. If students fail to remedy the problem, parents will be contacted. If the problem remains uncorrected, students will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with provisions of Connecticut General Statutes.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statute § 10-233 et seq.

Policy adopted: June 6, 2002
Policy amended: October 6, 2005
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NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut