

Students

School Athletic Uniforms

~~Students are encouraged to wear school uniforms to school on all school attendance days, in order to maintain and promote orderly school functions, student safety, and a positive learning environment. The Building Principal is authorized to designate days on which this uniform policy is relaxed.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall designate a school-wide uniform after receiving input from school staff members, parents, and interested community members.~~ **Students are not prohibited from modifying a sports uniform to be more modest in accordance with their religion or cultural values or preferences: Students may also:**

1. Display religious messages on items of clothing to the same extent they are permitted to display other messages;
2. Wear attire that is part of the student's religious practice;
3. Wear or display expressive items, such as a button, as long as such items do not contribute to disruption by substantially interfering with discipline or with the rights of others; and
4. Wear the uniform of a nationally recognized youth organization such as Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts on regular meeting days.

~~No student shall be denied attendance at school, penalized, or otherwise subject to compliance measures for failing to wear a uniform because of:~~

1. ~~Personal choice;~~
2. ~~Insufficient time in which to comply with this policy;~~
3. ~~Financial hardship;~~
4. ~~Hairstyles, including hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists;~~
5. ~~Graduation attire or accessories to graduation attire 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); or~~
6. ~~Religious objection by the student's parent/guardian to the student's compliance with this policy or the applicable uniform, if they have provided the Superintendent with a signed statement detailing their objection.~~

~~Any student eligible for reduced or free lunches, or for a waiver of student fees, is eligible for financial assistance toward the purchase of school athletic uniforms. The Superintendent or designee shall develop a process for informing parents/guardians of the availability of financial assistance and a method to process financial requests.~~

~~No student shall be suspended or expelled from school, or receive a lowered academic grade, because of failing to comply with this policy.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall develop incentives and positive reinforcement measures to encourage full compliance.~~

LEGAL REF: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25 and 5/10-22.25b.

CROSS REF: 4:140 (Waiver of Student Fees), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

APPROVED: