

MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Mountain View, California

Students

Regulation 5132: Dress And Grooming

CSBA Original Adopted Date: 10/01/1996 | Last Revised Date: 05/01/2019 | Last Reviewed Date: 05/01/2019

In cooperation with teachers, students, and parents/guardians, the principal or designee may establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

MVWSD's dress code values students and family choice in what a student wears to school. We prioritize comfort, individual expression, and respect for cultural and personal styles, while maintaining a safe and focused learning environment. We appreciate when parents and guardians support students in selecting attire that is appropriate for a school setting.

Allowable Dress

Students must wear opaque clothing that covers private parts, including both a shirt with pants/shorts/skirt (or equivalent) and shoes.

Clothing must be suitable for classroom activities including physical education, and safety requirements of science, culinary and engineering labs.

Specialized programs or extracurricular activities may require specific attire, such as performing arts or athletics uniforms or safety gear.

Non-Allowable Dress

Clothing or accessories that depicts nudity or sexual acts.

Clothing or accessories that promote hate, including symbols of hate, target groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected groups, are strictly prohibited.

Clothing or accessories that depict violence or are meant to intimidate others.

Clothing that depicts or advocates the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances. Logos may or may not meet this criteria.

~~The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:~~

- ~~1. Clothing, jewelry, and personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which is vulgar, lewd, obscene, profane, or sexually suggestive or which promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other illegal activity.~~
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- ~~2. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times.~~
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- ~~3. Hats, caps, and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors.~~
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- ~~4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments. See-through tops and bare abdomens are prohibited.~~

The dress code shall be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the principal or designee. In addition, the principal or designee may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066)

Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

Gang-Related Apparel

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. As necessary, the school shall collaborate with law enforcement agencies to update definitions of gang-related apparel.

Uniforms

In schools that require a schoolwide uniform, the principal, staff, and parents/guardians of the school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee in shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 212.1	Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	School safety plans
Ed. Code 35183	School dress code; uniforms

Ed. Code 35183.5	Sun-protective clothing
Ed. Code 48907	Exercise of free expression; time, place, and manner rules and regulations
Ed. Code 49066	Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

Management Resources

Description

Court Decision	Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 251
Court Decision	Harper v. Poway Unified School District (2006) 445 App. 3d 166
Court Decision	Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562
Court Decision	Jacobs v. Clark County School District (2008) 26 F. 3d 419
Court Decision	Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al (C.D. Cal. 1993) 827 F.Supp. 1459
Court Decision	Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) 393 U.S. 503
Court Decision	Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services

Cross References

Code	Description
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5131	Conduct
5136	Gangs
5136	Gangs
5141.7	Sun Safety
5144	Discipline

5144 [Discipline](#)

5145.2 [Freedom Of Speech/Expression](#)

5145.2 [Freedom Of Speech/Expression](#)

5145.3 [Nondiscrimination/Harassment](#)

5145.3 [Nondiscrimination/Harassment](#)

5145.6 [Parent/Guardian Notifications](#)

5145.6-E(1) [Parent/Guardian Notifications](#)

5145.7 [Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment](#)

5145.7 [Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment](#)

6141.2 [Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)

6141.2 [Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs](#)

6173 [Education For Homeless Children](#)

6173 [Education For Homeless Children](#)

6173-E(1) [Education For Homeless Children](#)

6173-E(2) [Education For Homeless Children](#)

6173.1 [Education For Foster Youth](#)

6173.1 [Education For Foster Youth](#)

6173.3 [Education For Juvenile Court School Students](#)

6175 [Migrant Education Program](#)

6175 [Migrant Education Program](#)