POLICY NO. 221
DRESS AND GROOMING

1. Purpose
The Board recognizes that each student’s mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance except when these choices affect the educational program of the schools or the health and safety of others. The Board expects each student to maintain a high level of personal hygiene and grooming.

2. Authority
The Board authorizes the Superintendent to enforce school regulations prohibiting student dress or grooming practices which:

   a. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or of others in the school;

   b. materially interfere with school work, create disorder or disrupt the education program (example of this would be gang colors, insignias or logos which could create disruption within the school environment);

   c. cause excessive wear or damage to school property;

Title 22
Sec. 12.11
(a) (b) (d)
d. prevent the student from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement; and

e. promotes drugs, drug usage, or the advertisement of drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, or sexual materials.

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shops, extracurricular activities or in other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which:

a. designate the building principal to monitor student dress and grooming in the building;

b. instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty and good sense in attire and appearance; and

c. ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student’s taste and individuality.

4. Guidelines

The Board maintains that clothes make a difference in attitudes and behavior and may reflect academic achievement. Any type of dress which endangers health and/or safety or is distracting to the educational environment will not be permitted.
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including the following:

a. abbreviated tops (halter, tube, bare midriff, muscle shirt) or short shorts/skirts (above mid-thigh);

b. sleeveless attire that exposes underwear (including sports bras), is too low cut, or does not have formfitting armholes;

c. hats/headbands (any head covering);

d. sunglasses;

e. chains, other than necklaces that will break when pulled, dog collars/spiked necklaces or bracelets;

f. coats in class (only sweaters, sweatshirts and windbreakers are permitted);

g. clothing which contains any reference to drugs and/or alcohol;

h. clothing that is frayed, painted, patched or ripped;

i. clothing which contains words and/or pictures of an offensive or questionable nature; and

j. clothing or objects which suggest identification with a gang.

Any student who chooses to wear the above mentioned attire will be asked to remove it and/or return home to change outfits. The School District reserves the right to send
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home students whose attire is deemed disruptive to the educational environment and an interference with the educational process of other students. Head coverings worn in class or in the hallway will be confiscated and will be returned only to a parent/guardian.

The following shall be prohibited inside buildings: headsets, beepers, carrying of radios, compact disk (CD) players, and pagers.

PA Code Title 22 Sec. 12.11