

POLICY 5431
STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Board of Education is committed to providing students with an educational environment that is safe and conducive to learning.

The district retains the right to monitor and take action when student attire presents a health or safety hazard, or disrupts the educational environment.

Parents/guardians may request an exception to this policy and/or rule based on religious beliefs or medical conditions. Such exceptions must be submitted to the superintendent and/or his/her designee for consideration and documentation.

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes

Sections: 118.001 Duties and powers of school boards; construction of statutes
20.13(1)(a) School board powers
First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

CROSS REF.: 5431.1 - School Uniforms

5438 - Gangs and Gang Related Activities

AFFIRMED: August 13, 1991

REVISED: January 11, 1994
September 9, 1997
May 22, 2007
September 22, 2009
October 26, 2010
December 17, 2013
July 22, 2014
August 26, 2014
March 27, 2018

RULE 5431
STUDENT DRESS CODE

All students are expected to exemplify appropriate hygiene and dress standards in a manner that projects an appropriate image for the student, school and district. The district shall not require specific brands of clothing. If there is a disagreement between students and/or parents/guardians and staff regarding the appropriateness of clothing, the principal will make the final determination.

Bottoms:

- May not be see-through
- Must fit appropriately and may not drag on the floor
- Must be at the waist and appropriately fastened with belts when needed
- Must be clean and in appropriate repair – holes and/or rips below mid-thigh are permissible, but holes and/or rips above mid-thigh cannot show skin
- Must cover undergarments at all times
- Must cover the waistline, no skin may show between bottoms and tops when seated or standing
- Dresses, leggings, skirts, skorts, shorts, pants and yoga pants should be at least mid-thigh length and cover all private body parts at all times

Tops:

- May not be see-through
- Must fit appropriately
- Must be clean and in appropriate repair with no holes or tears
- Must cover the waistline, no skin may show between bottoms and tops when seated or standing
- Must cover all private body parts at all times
- Must cover undergarments at all times
- Tank tops are acceptable if the straps are at least one inch in width

Footwear:

- Athletic shoes, laced shoes, shoe boots, loafers, dress shoes or sandals (are permissible)
- Must be secured on the feet
- No house slippers are allowed
- Elementary: shoes must have a strap around heel (no flip-flops)

Student ID cards:

- Middle school students will be required to wear their student identification cards (ID) during the school day and have them easily accessible during all school activities (e.g. academic, extra-curricular, co-curricular).
- High school students must have an ID in their possession at all times and have them easily accessible during all school activities (e.g. academic, extra-curricular, co-curricular).

Additional guidelines:

- Clothing representing gangs or gang-related activity, including gang-related colors if for purposes of gang identification, may not be worn
- Clothing that contains pictures and/or writing referring to alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, sexual references, profanity, illegal drugs, bigoted epithets, harassment/hate messages, or

RULE 5431
STUDENT DRESS CODE
Page 2

- messages of hostility toward race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation may not be worn
- Pajamas, undershirts or undergarments may not be worn as outerwear
- Attire that may be considered a weapon is not allowed (e.g. chain belts, wallet chains, etc.)
- Jewelry, piercing, tattoos or similar artifacts that are obscene or may cause disruptions to the educational environment are prohibited
- Hoods, hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands, skullcaps, plastic hair bags, hair nets or do-rags may not be worn within the building
- Grooming items (e.g. hair picks, combs, etc.) may not be worn in the hair
- Outerwear, including coats, hats, gloves/mittens and scarves, may not be worn inside unless a student is going to his/her locker or classroom after coming from or going outside, or with administrative approval
- Face coverings (e.g. sunglasses, masks, etc.) may not be worn in the building
- High school students may use backpacks during the school day
- Elementary and middle school students may not use backpacks during the school day without administrative approval

It shall be left to the discretion of the principal and/or his/her designee whether or not a student is in compliance with the student dress code policy. Students who violate the policy for school attire will put on clothing that is appropriate or contact a parent/guardian to bring them appropriate clothing. The principal/designee may call a conference with the parent/guardian, student and counselor to assist with compliance. Refusal and/or repeated violations of school attire policy may lead to further disciplinary action.