

A SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD MARCH 21, 2018

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at 5:30 P.M. in the Board Meeting Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was for Views and Comments by the Public and Discussion/Possible Action on School Board Policy 5431 – Student Dress Code.

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 P.M. with the following members present: Mr. Falkofske, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Wade, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Garcia, and Mrs. Coleman. Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis was also present. Mr. Kunich was absent.

Mrs. Coleman, President, opened the meeting by announcing that this was a special meeting of the School Board of the Kenosha Unified School District No. 1. Notice of this special meeting was given to the public by forwarding a copy of the notice to all requesting radio stations and newspapers.

Views and comments were made by the public.

Mrs. Coleman presented School Board Policy 5431 – Student Dress Code submitted by Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, excerpts follow:

“At the direction of the School Board President in response to request from school board members, a special meeting took place on February 13, 2018, to discuss School Board Policy 5431 – Student Dress Code. Discussion seemed to focus on leggings/yoga pants, tank tops, and see through clothing.

It was decided to have board members utilize a Google document to submit their suggested changes by the end of the day on February 27, 2018, with a subsequent special meeting to discuss the suggested changes. The link was sent to school board members on February 14, 2018, February 22, 2018, and February 26, 2018. Three board members submitted changes.

Attachment A is the current version of Policy 5431 and Attachment B for review and discussion are the suggested changes submitted by Board members.”

Board members reviewed the suggested changes submitted and there was consensus on the following revisions:

- Change the rule to read as “Dresses, skirts, skorts, shorts and pants should be at least mid-thigh length and cover all private body parts at all times.” (Addition of “and pants”, change “must” to “should” and addition of “and cover all private body parts.”)
- Change the rule to read as “Leggings and yoga pants may be worn as bottoms.” (Remove “not” and “however, leggings may be worn beneath dresses, skirts, skorts, shorts and tunics.”)

- Change the rule to read as “Sleeveless shirts are acceptable if the straps are one inch in width. Body parts and undergarments must be covered at all times.” (Remove “they reach edge of shoulder and arm opening cannot be excessive.”)
- Remove “Students may not wear tank tops.”
- Change the rule to read as “Hoods, hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands, skullcaps, plastic hair bags, hair nets or do rags are not allowed to be worn within the building.” (Addition of “to be worn”)
- Change the rule to read as “No outerwear: coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves may not be worn inside unless student is going to or from the locker after coming/going out of doors or there is administrative approval.” (Addition of “student is going to or from the locker after coming/going out of doors or”)
- Remove “High school level students must have an ID in their possession at all times and have them easily accessible during all school activities (academic, extra-curricular, co-curricular).”
- Change the rule to read as “Middle and high school level students will be required to wear their student identification (I.D.’s) during the school day and have them easily accessible during all school activities (academic, extra-curricular, co-curricular). (Addition of “and high school” and “their”.)
- Add “Students will not be called out for a dress code violation in front of students or staff.”
- Add “Dress code violations will be addressed privately with the student.”
- Add “Student will not be sent home for dress code violations.”

Mrs. Coleman noted that the revisions will be incorporated into the policy and brought back to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Wade moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Garcia seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary