

Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:
	401	12/07/11
UNIFORM POLICY	Rescind:	Issued:

BOARD POLICY

Introduction: In keeping with the Department of Education’s Vision Statement of Preparing all Students for Life, Promoting Excellence and Providing Support and Board Policy 300 (the Board’s Instructional Philosophy), the Board recognizes that school uniforms enhance the learning environment. Therefore, schools may adopt a uniform policy consistent with the District standard operating procedure, to include appropriate physical education attire that is supported and embraced by the school community.

The intent of this policy is to promote the following: improve student behavior, promote appropriate attire, promote unity and pride, promote safety and security of all school personnel, minimize and or eliminate any socio-economic distinction, and promote an environment free of harassment.

EXEMPTION PROVISION: There shall be a standard exemption provision in all mandatory School Uniform Policies. The Board recognized that parents or guardians of school students, including students who are 18 years or older, have the right to request for an exemption. However, exemptions will depend on the principal’s sound judgment that a request is consistent with the mental, physical, and educational well being of the student.

- **Medical Reasons:** Examples of medical reasons include, but not limited to, allergic reaction to material, pregnancy, and other physical limitations preventing the wearing of the school uniform. Requests for medical exemptions must be accompanied by a Doctor’s certification.

School-wide Exemption: General dress-down may be approved by the school principal if the activity promotes a sound educational purpose. Fundraising opportunities shall be at the discretion of the individual schools consistent with Board Policies. Student participation in dress down fundraising activities shall be optional.

School Uniform Implementation Guidelines: The following guidelines have been established to assist Public Schools in their quest to incorporate school uniforms within their program:

- By having parents involved and conducting periodic surveys.
- Determine whether to have a voluntary or mandatory school uniform policy
- Assist families that need financial help
- Treat school uniforms as part of the overall safety program

- No hats or Bandana's are to be worn on any school campus.

Students are not to be penalized for not wearing vendor specific pants/shorts/skorts provided as the pants are generally the same color as what is required, it is sufficient. Students who are not in school uniform will be subject to conferences, parental conferences, and work details. Students are NOT to be suspended because of uniform violations.

Students may wear any color undershirt (unless there is a reason to believe the color is gang affiliated) as long as there is no obscene language or pictures on the shirt. No long sleeve undershirts are to be worn at anytime. Undershirts must always be tucked in.

Students are not allowed to wear revealing clothes, blouses, spaghetti straps, and high heels. For safety reasons, no open toe shoes are allowed.

Schools may apply additional restrictions as per BP 400 to meet the mission of their schools with concurrence of the Superintendent.

New Schools: New Schools have exactly one school year to implement the school uniform policy.

Superintendent shall review and revise Standard Operating Procedure for the implementation of the School Uniform Policy within 60 days of the adoption of this Board Policy.

ADOPTED: Board of Education 03/08/03

AMENDED: 08/24/05; 03/12/08; **11/30/11**