



Book	BOARD POLICIES
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Dress and Grooming
Code	221
Status	First Reading

Purpose

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

Authority

The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or constitute a health or safety hazard. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

The Board directs compliance with Board policy and law prohibiting discrimination, including but not limited to protections addressing: [\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

1. Protective hairstyles, including but not limited to hairstyles such as locs, braids, twists, coils, Bantu knots, afros and extensions.
2. Religious creed including head covering and hairstyles historically associated with religious creeds.

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student. [\[2\]](#)

The Board authorizes district staff who are supporting students experiencing educational instability to, when deemed appropriate, waive penalties related to a delay in compliance with Board policy or school rules related to dress and grooming. [\[3\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all school rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.[2]

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.[4]

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Legal

- [1. 24 P.S. 1317.3](#)
- [2. 22 PA Code 12.11](#)
- [3. 43 P.S. 951 et seq](#)
- 4. Pol. 103
- 5. Pol. 251
- 6. Pol. 325