



AP 329– STUDENT DRESS

BACKGROUND

Our schools work to ensure students have safe, equitable, welcoming and inclusive school environments. We recognize that decisions about dress reflect individual expression of identity, socio-cultural norms, economic factors and are personal and important to an individual's well-being and health.

School dress policies are meant to create safe, positive learning environments and support equitable educational access. They should not reinforce stereotypes or result in any unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

School dress policies and administrative enforcement should not marginalize or oppress any group based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, household income, gender identity or cultural observance.

PROCEDURES

1. All principals will publish the school dress policy in a manner that will ensure staff, parents, and students are aware of its contents, at the beginning of each year.
2. Students must not wear clothing which undermines the division's commitment to a safe and inclusive learning environment. This includes:
 - 2.1. Clothing that promotes the use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol;
 - 2.2. Clothing that advocates illegal activity;
 - 2.3. Clothing, insignias, symbols or adornments that denigrate or promote hatred of a person or persons, including, but not limited to, clothing that denigrates or promotes hate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or age;
 - 2.4. Clothing which contains profanity in any language, pornography or obscene images.
3. Student clothing must adhere to health and safety requirements, including requirements arising from participation in specialized programs and events.
4. Other than for religious purposes, health and safety requirements, or where required to accommodate a disability, students must not wear clothing which obscures their face.
5. Staff shall respond to Student Dress policy violations in a manner that:
 - 5.1. Is consultative with the school administration prior to addressing a dress code concern with a student.
 - 5.2. Balances student health, well-being and safety while fostering positive school climates while affirming and respecting student choices and freedom of expression;
 - 5.3. Is discreet, respectful and clearly references the specifics of the dress policy concern;



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- 5.4. Allows the student to wear additional clothing of their own or borrowed, to obscure the violating dress choice. If the student does not have additional clothing, some may be offered by the school.
- 5.5. Includes contacting parents or guardians of any student that has violated this Administrative Procedure.

References: Kamloops-Thompson School District No. 73
Toronto District School Board

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