

SECTION: PUPILS  
 TITLE: DRESS AND GROOMING  
 ADOPTED: August 19, 2002  
 REVISED: July 17, 2006  
 August 18, 2008  
 August 20, 2012  
 June 16, 2014 (eff. July 1, 2014)  
 November 17, 2014  
 April 20, 2015  
 August 17, 2015  
 July 17, 2017 (eff. July 1, 2018)  
 September 17, 2018  
 January 28, 2019  
 July 20, 2020  
 February 27, 2023

# EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

| 221. DRESS AND GROOMING                                       |   |
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| <p>1. Purpose</p>   | <p>The Board recognizes the right of every student to freedom of expression both in speech and the wearing of apparel as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court.</p> <p>The Board also recognizes its paramount obligation to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the students who attend its schools.</p> <p>The Board further recognizes its responsibility to maintain a positive learning environment in the schools under its jurisdiction and to minimize the opportunity for student distraction and/or disruption.</p> <p>The Board believes that this Dress &amp; Grooming policy will address the issues related to the health, safety, and welfare of the students attending its schools and will further aid in the maintenance of a positive learning environment and promote school pride and school spirit.</p>                               |
| <p>2. Authority<br/>Title 22<br/>Sec. 12.11<br/>SC 1317.3</p> | <p>Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education classes, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.</p> <p>The Board authorizes and directs the school principal or designee to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board Policy and school rules regarding student dress and/or grooming.</p> <p>At no time, shall students dress or groom themselves in a manner which could:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others in the school.</li> <li>2. Materially interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program.</li> <li>3. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property.</li> </ol> |

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| <p>Pol. 251</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>4. Guidelines<br/>Title 22<br/>Sec. 12.11</p> | <p>4. Prevent the student from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.</p> <p>The Board directs district staff to support students experiencing educational instability by waiving penalties related to a delay in compliance with Board policy or school rules related to dress and grooming.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy, which designates the building principal to monitor student dress in his/her building to ensure this Policy is enforced.</p> <p>Students shall have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes and their hair clean.</p> <p>The following standards regarding student dress and grooming shall be followed by students on <b>school property</b> during the <b>school day and while on school buses</b>:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ACCEPTABLE SCHOOL ATTIRE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>TOPS/BLOUSES/SHIRTS</u></b> must have sleeves and cover the wearer within 3 3/8” (long side of school district-issued photo ID card length) of the base of the collar bone. Tops may be tucked in or worn so that it meets or extends over the pant/jeggings/shorts/skorts/skirts with no gap in between.</p> <p><b><u>PANTS/JEANS/JEGGINGS/LEGGINGS</u></b> must be worn at the waist. Length of pants shall not extend beyond the bottom of the shoe or drag on the floor. There shall be no gap between tops and pants.</p> <p><b><u>SHORTS/SKORTS/SKIRTS</u></b> must be worn at the waist and cover the wearer within 2” (short side of school district-issued photo ID card) of the top of the knee. Leggings/tights may be worn under skirts that meet the length requirement.</p> <p><b><u>DRESSES</u></b> must have sleeves and cover the wearer within 2” (short side of school district-issued photo ID card) of the top of the knee. Tank or spaghetti strap dresses may be worn; however, they <u>must</u> have a sleeved top beneath. Leggings/tights may be worn under dresses that meet the length requirement.</p> <p><b><u>SWEATPANTS/SWEATSHIRTS/TRACK SUITS/LEGGINGS</u></b> may be worn provided they meet the requirements of tops and pants as noted above.</p> <p><b><u>HOODED SWEATSHIRTS/SWEATERS</u></b> may be worn; however, <u>shall not cover the head while indoors on school district property or while riding on school buses.</u></p> <p><b><u>SHOES</u></b> must have back straps and/or be secured at the heel.</p> |
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Heel Height:

- Elementary students are encouraged to wear flat, comfortable shoes that allow them to safely transition throughout their day as well as participate in recess activities. Should a heel be worn, heel height shall not exceed 1 inch.
- Intermediate and high school students are encouraged to wear flat, comfortable shoes that allow them to safely transition throughout their day. Should a heel be worn, heel height shall not exceed 2.5 inches.

**OUTERWEAR** (i.e.: coats, jackets, parkas, gloves, hats, hoods) shall not be worn indoors during the school day, excluding when traveling to or from one's locker (intermediate/high school level) or homeroom (elementary level) when entering or exiting the building.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT ISSUED PHOTO ID** shall be on one's person, or on a lanyard, at all times and shall be produced when requested by district staff upon entrance into school activities or at any time when a student's identity is in question.

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**UNACCEPTABLE/OFFENSIVE SCHOOL ATTIRE**

The following are considered **UNACCEPTABLE** school attire and shall **NOT** be worn:

1. Torn, ripped, frayed edges, or holes in the clothing fabric.
2. Excessively baggy pants or clothing that can conceal items and/or pose a safety hazard to the student or others.
3. Exposed undergarments, including but not limited to bra straps, underwear shall not be exposed in any way.
4. Spaghetti strap, halter, mesh, tube, crop, tank, or muscle tops.
5. See-through blouses or shirts.
6. Pajamas or slippers (unless approved as part of a classroom activity or school spirit day/week).
7. Wallets with waist chains.
8. Spiked jewelry that could cause injury or present a safety hazard to the student or others.
9. Headwear including but not limited to caps, hats, hoods, scarves, bandanas,

hair nets, sweatbands and/or do-rags indoors while on school district property.

10. Sunglasses indoors while on school district property.

The following clothing, tattoos\*, patches, buttons, pins, jewelry, and/or backpacks will be considered **OFFENSIVE** and shall **not** be permitted if they:

1. Contain writing, pictures, or symbols that could be considered pornographic, obscene, vulgar and/or sexually suggestive.
2. Advocate violence, hate, intolerance or racism.
3. Advertise and/or promote the use of tobacco, alcohol and/or drugs.
4. Contain double-meaning messages and/or obscene language.
5. Suggest gang affiliation or activities.

**\*Students with offensive tattoos will be required to cover the tattoo at all times when on school district property.**

School district officials will not make school-wide policies limiting the length or style of hair, but they may require changes in either style or length on an individual basis if they can demonstrate that a student's hairstyle is a health and/or safety hazard and/or disruptive to the educational process.

Exceptions/Exclusions to Approved Selections

1. As required by an eligible student's Individualized Education Plan;
2. As required by a Chapter 15 - Section 504 Service Agreement;
3. As required by one's religious order as evidenced in writing by an official thereof;
4. As required for participation in school sponsored activities/athletics and/or physical education classes as set forth in the Code of Student Conduct;

Exceptions/Exclusions remain subject to Standard Requirements.

Definitions

school property: (see Pennsylvania School Code)

school day: (see Policies 803 and 804)

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| <p>Pol. 218.3</p> | <p><u>Transfer Students</u></p> <p>Upon enrollment in the East Stroudsburg Area School District, new students will be granted a grace period of one week before being required to conform to the dress policy, but dress must comply with the spirit and intent of this Policy.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary Consequences</u></p> <p>Students violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary consequences as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, and/or Policy 218.3, as applicable.</p> <p>A student may change from non-compliant clothing to compliant clothing provided by the school, when available.</p> <p>A dress code is a dynamic document. Administrative discretion may be used to determine appropriate attire in the school setting. Students and parents/guardians shall be notified of any change in policy. Solutions to situations not specifically covered herein are the responsibility of building-level administrators.</p> <p>Appropriate decisions will be made based on the Board policy. Students and parents/guardians are expected to exercise careful judgment in the selection of appropriate attire for school.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1317.3<br/>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA code Sec. 12.11<br/>Board Policy – 218.3, 251, 806</p> |
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