

EAST
STROUDSBURG
AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SCHOOL ACADEMIC ATTIRE
OR STANDARD DRESS

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Authority</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">221.1. SCHOOL ACADEMIC ATTIRE OR STANDARD DRESS</p> <p>The Board has an interest in maintaining the integrity of its schools by preventing school violence, promoting proper discipline, increasing safety and security, fostering school unity and pride, and preventing fashion distractions so that students can focus on learning at school. School academic attire or standard dress is one of the school district's methods of promoting this interest.</p> <p>The Board may impose limitations on dress and may provide for an optional program permitting students to wear standard dress or school academic attire. Such dress policies may be applicable throughout the school district or may be applicable to one or more school buildings within the school district.</p> <p>The Board delegates each school principal the authority to pilot or create a voluntary school academic attire or standard dress program for students in their school. The individual school may create a task force comprised of students, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators and Board members to recommend to the Board a program that permits students to wear standard dress or school academic attire.</p> <p>In order to carry out this policy, the Board provides the following guidelines for schools within the school district that may opt for the adoption of a standard dress or school academic attire policy.</p> <p>The school must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake such methods to assess affected parents'/guardians' opinions on the optional standard dress or school academic attire and the method of the implementation of the voluntary program. 2. Consider the relevant and specific needs and issues of the individual school with respect to students wearing school academic attire or standard dress. 3. Provide the Board with a brief description of the process used, issues discussed, and research conducted by the individual school's task force.
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4. Determine what items and/or apparel will constitute school academic attire or standard dress, skirts, shirts, pants, blouses, dresses, gym clothes, jackets, coats, standard shoes or sneakers.
5. Recommend the school academic attire or standard dress after considering:
 - a. Reasonable cost.
 - b. Safety.
 - c. Whether more than one uniform or standard dress version should be adopted.
6. There will be no instances in which students will be required to wear a school-sponsored message on school academic attire or standard dress.
7. Upon adoption, notify affected students and their parents/guardians of the optional standard dress or school academic attire, the effective date, cost, where such items/apparel are available and any requirements involved in the process.
8. At the beginning of each school year, students must be furnished with a copy of the current school academic attire or standard dress rules and information adopted by the Board. Copies must also be made available to the administrators, teachers and parents/guardians within the school district.

The school may:

1. Consider whether to include an incentive program for students to wear their school academic attire or standard dress to school.
2. Consider financial assistance arrangements for those who need aid.
3. Consider support for school academic attire and standard dress from local businesses.
4. Consider whether the school will sell school academic attire to students or whether students will purchase such items at a retail store.

This policy becomes effective immediately upon adoption by the Board. Schools shall make their recommended optional school academic attire or standard dress selection, accompanied by a description of the optional school academic attire or standard dress, and develop their procedures. Such information shall be submitted to the Board no later than the regularly-scheduled April Board meeting to facilitate institution in the ensuing school year.