

STUDENT APPEARANCE

The Board believes that inappropriate student appearance causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors.

Students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness and appropriateness of dress that are compatible with the requirements for an effective learning environment. Such standards will be those generally acceptable to the community as appropriate for the school setting and as defined in the procedures for this policy, 500.14A.

The Board expects students to be clean and well groomed and to wear clothes that are in good repair and appropriate for the time, place, and occasion. Clothing or other apparel promoting products illegal for use by minors and clothing displaying obscene material, profanity, or reference to prohibited conduct are not allowed. Any clothing or other apparel not specifically listed in this policy or the related procedures but found to be offensive to students or staff is not to be worn.

While the primary responsibility for appearance lies with the students and their parents, appearance that is disruptive to the educational program will not be tolerated. When, in the judgement of the Administrator or designee, a student's appearance or mode of dress disrupts the educational process or constitutes a threat to health or safety, the student may be required to make modifications.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)
Bethal School District v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
Tinker v. Des Moines Ind. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987).
Torvik v. Decorah Community School, 453 F.2d 779 (8th Cir. 1972).
Turley v. Adel Comm. Sch. Dist., 322 F. Supp. 402 (S.D. Iowa 1971).
Sims v. Colfax Comm. Sch. Dist., 307 F. Supp. 485 (Iowa 1970).
Iowa Code § 279.8 (1995).

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