



POLICY

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

STUDENTS

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Dress and Grooming

5511 DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of the student's personal style and individual preferences. The Board will impose its judgment on students and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) only when a student's dress and grooming affect the educational program of the schools.

Students may not wear clothing or engage in grooming practices that present a health or safety hazard to the individual student or to others; materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program; cause excessive wear or damage to school property; or prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

The Board of Education prohibits students from wearing, while on school property, any type of clothing, apparel or accessory which indicates that the student has membership in, or affiliation with, any gang associated with criminal activities. The local law enforcement agency will advise the Board, upon request, of gangs which are associated with criminal activities.

The Building Principal shall determine whether the dress or grooming of students comes within these prohibitions.

Staff members shall demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

The Superintendent shall, on consultation with staff members, students, and parent(s) or legal guardian(s), prepare a dress code that imposes only minimum and necessary limitations on a student's taste and individuality.

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N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, 18A:11-7, 18A:11-8, 18A:11-9

BOE Revised Date: 9/30/2021
BOE Approved Date: 2/28/2019



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Dress Code

R 5511 DRESS CODE

The following dress code has been developed in accordance with Policy No. **5511** and in consultation with staff members, parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and students of this district.

A. General Rules

1. Students are expected to be clean and well groomed in their appearance.
2. Students are expected to avoid dress and grooming that is likely to create a material and substantial disruption to the school environment.
3. Dress or grooming that jeopardizes the health or safety of the student or of other students or is injurious to school property will not be tolerated.

B. Allowable Dress and Grooming

1. Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants or skirt, or the equivalent, and shoes.
2. Shirts and dresses must have fabric in the front and on the sides.
3. Clothing must cover undergarments, waistbands and bra straps excluded.
4. Fabric covering all private parts must not be seen through.
5. Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible and not interfere with the line of sight to any student or staff. Hoodies must allow the student's face and ears to be visible to staff.
6. Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities including physical education, science labs, field trips, and other activities where unique hazards exist.
7. Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.

C. Prohibited Clothing and Articles

1. Clothing may not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
2. Clothing may not depict profanity, pornography, nudity or sexual acts.
3. Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race,



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ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected groups.

4. Clothing must not threaten the health or safety of any other student or staff.
5. Clothing that is frayed, shredded or ripped may not expose under-garments or private parts.
6. If the student's attire or grooming threatens the health or safety of any other person, then discipline for dress or grooming violations should be consistent with discipline policies for similar violations.

Appropriate Attire for all virtual educational experiences, inclusive of, but limited to daily lessons, participation in extra or co-curricular events, attendance at virtual recreational experiences must meet the requirements listed herein.

E. Enforcement

1. Teaching staff members will report perceived violations of the dress code to the Building Principal or designee, who will interpret and apply the code.
2. Students who publicly represent the school or a school organization at an activity away from the school district are required to dress in full accordance with the reasonable expectations of the staff member in charge of the activity. Students unwilling to comply with this requirement will disqualify themselves from participation.
3. Students will not be permitted to attend a school-related function, such as a field trip, after-school activity unless they are attired and groomed in accordance with this dress code and the reasonable expectations of the staff member in charge.
4. The Principal may waive application of the dress code for special school activity days.
5. A student whose dress or grooming has been found by the Principal or designee to violate this Regulation may appeal the determination to the Superintendent.

Adopted: 7/15/2021