

Garfield Heights City School District
Bylaws & Policies

5511 - DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board of Education recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a reasonable dress code in order to promote a safe and healthy school setting and enhance the educational environment. The dress code shall be incorporated into the Student Code of Conduct or Discipline Code.

Accordingly, the Superintendent shall establish such grooming guidelines as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes. Such guidelines shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

- A. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school;
- B. materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines shall establish the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event.

DRESS CODE**General**

- A. All clothing must be of appropriate size and fit neatly.
- B. Oversize, saggy, baggy or tight fitting clothing will not be permitted.
- C. Tops and bottoms must overlap at all times, including when arms are raised.
- D. Garfield logos or other "Garfield spirit wear" that has been approved by administration is permissible at any time.
- E. Clothing that is in disrepair, worn out, ripped, or contains holes is not permitted.
- F. Any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through is not permitted.
- G. Shoes, sandals, or boots must be worn.
- H. Hats, bandanas, sweatbands, or other headwear may not be worn.
- I. Jackets, coats and outerwear may not be worn during the school day and must be kept in a locker.
- J. Sunglasses may not be worn and must be kept in a locker/book bag.
- K. Unnaturally colored hair, including but not limited to blue, purple, etc., is not permitted.
- L. Any garment specifically made to be an undergarment is not to be worn as an outer garment.
- M. *Any article of apparel, clothing, and/or accessory that promotes drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, violence or is gang-related, offensive or degrading is not permitted.*
- N. Any article of apparel, clothing, and/or accessory that presents a hazard to the individual or to other people is not permitted.
- O. Anything that may cause a distraction to the educational process, interferes with discipline or is deemed inappropriate by administration is not permitted.

Dresses

Must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to, color, fit, length and style.

Pants, Shorts, Skorts, Capris, Skirts

- A. All pants, shorts, skorts, capris, and skirts must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to, fit, length, and style.
- B. Length of shorts, skirts, dresses and/or skorts must equal or exceed student's fingertip length.
- C. Pants, shorts, skorts, capris, and skirts made of mesh, nylon, spandex, flannel, fleece or similar materials (such as pajama-style bottoms, sweatpants, jogging pants, running shorts, etc.) are not permitted. Athletic clothing in the form of pants, shorts, capris and skirts is not permitted.

Shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Vests, Pullovers

- A. Tops must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to fit, length and style.
- B. All shirts, etc. must have sleeves. Bare midriff, see-through and/or cutout clothing; tank tops, spaghetti strap dresses and sheer clothing are not permitted. Low-cut revealing blouses may not be worn.
- C. Because of safety concerns, flip-flops, shower sandals and beachwear are prohibited. (During a fire or other situations demanding quick building evacuation, this type of footwear is extremely dangerous to the wearer and others.)

The Superintendent or designee may develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which:

- A. designate the principal as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building;
- B. may invite the participation of staff, parents and students in the preparation of a dress code which may specify prescribed dress and grooming practices, but may not amplify the rationale for prohibition established by Board policy;
- C. instruct staff members to demonstrate by example and precept wholesome attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance;
- D. ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only minimum and necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be suspended from school.

R.C. 3313.20, 3313.60, 3313.661, 3313.665

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