

# STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## STANDARDIZED DRESS POLICY –Grades “5-12”

### 1. Purpose

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.

The Board also recognizes its paramount obligation to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the students who attend its schools.

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.

The Board believes that a policy of standard dress 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.

### 2. Authority

The legal authority for this policy is Section 1317.3 *Uniforms of the Public School Code of 1949*, as amended (24 PS 1317.3).

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to enforce school regulations limiting student dress in order to:

1. increase school safety and provide for the health and welfare of its students
2. promote a school and learning environment, which focus on instruction and learning.
3. promote school pride and school spirit

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technology education classes, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.

Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program where there is evidence that the lack of cleanliness constitutes a health hazard to the educational process.

3. Delegation of Authority

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 Standardized Dress Policy is enforced.

4. Guidelines

Parents must be mindful that dress, which may be distracting or disruptive to the learning process, will not be tolerated. Any student violating this dress code will be addressed in accordance to the Consequences for Non-Compliance portion of this document. School administrators have the final responsibility for interpretation and enforcement of dress should any anomaly exist. School administrators may give permission for students to dress outside the parameters of the dress code guidelines on planned or special event occasions. Examples may include, but are not limited to, field trips and pep assemblies. Dress, on these days, shall still be consistent with the intent and spirit of the Standardized Dress Policy.

The following dress and grooming guidelines shall apply to all students attending classes within Stroudsburg Area School District buildings, in 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**BOTTOMS**

Dress, Casual dockers style, or Corduroy pant  
Dress or Casual dockers style short  
Dress or Casual Capri style pant  
Dress or Casual Skirt/Skort

**Color:**

Khaki (tan/stone) and Black  
Khaki (tan/stone) and Black  
Khaki (tan/stone) and Black  
Khaki (tan/stone) and Black

**Bottom Guidelines:**

- Must be appropriately sized for the student, that is, they are to be no more than one regular size larger than the student actually measures. Extra wide, extra full, extra long, baggy, or sagging pants or shorts are not permitted.
- Tight, form-fitting pants are not permitted.
- Pleated or plain front bottoms are acceptable.
- No more than 2 front and rear pockets are permitted.
- Bottoms must be worn at natural waist and fit comfortably.
- Pant length must meet top of shoe, but must not touch the floor; must be hemmed or have a standard cuff. Pants may not be tucked into shoe/boot and may not be cuffed to meet top of boot.
- Short/Skirt/Skort length must reach top of knee cap.
- Skirt/Skort must be free of pockets below the hip. Full length leggings/tights may be worn under skirt.
- Belt: must be worn at natural waistline and be of solid color material (black, white, tan, or brown). Belt buckles must be a plain, standard belt buckle. Belts must be appropriately length for waist and have no designs, emblems, insignias, monograms, logos, holes, studs, etc.
- Bottoms must be of contrasting color to top.
- No holes or slits are permitted.
- No rivets or sewn-on loops are permitted.
- No carpenter or cargo pants/shorts are permitted.
- No sweats, corduroy, jean/denim bottoms are permitted. Undergarments must not be visible; no spandex, nylon, or stretch material.

**TOPS**

**Color:**

Traditional Style ~~2 or 3 button~~ Polo  
Standard Oxford Dress shirt/blouse –must be tucked in

Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black

**Top Guidelines:**

- Must be appropriately sized for the student, that is, they are to be no more than one regular size larger than the student actually measures. No long/baggy shirts permitted. No logo’s prints, stripes, patterns, etc. are permitted.
- All shirts must have a collar
- Short, long, or three-quarter length sleeves are permitted; sleeves must cover shoulders
- Female Blouse-no low cut, plunging or V-neck neckline. Shirt may have ruffles, but must be buttoned to the base of the neck.
- Buttons: Shirt must be buttoned to the base of the neck as to not be deemed excessively revealing.

**OPTIONAL APPAREL**

**Color:**

T-shirts (layering garment)  
Turtleneck/Mock Turtleneck (layering garment)  
Pullover  
Full-Torso Cardigan Sweater /Turtle Neck Sweater  
Full-Torso Vest/ Sweater Vest  
Fleece  
Crew neck Sweatshirt (solid or district/school)

Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
Solid color White, Maroon/Burgundy, Grey or Black  
(District/school logo-optional)

**Optional Apparel Guidelines:**

- Plain undershirts, t-shirts, turtlenecks, mock turtlenecks may be worn underneath the standard dress top.
- Turtle necks and mock turtlenecks may be worn as a layering garment for pullovers, sweater vests, cardigan sweaters, fleeces, or Stroudsburg School District crew neck sweatshirts. If turtle/mock turtle necks are not used in this manner, a standard collared shirt top must be worn.
- Solid color pullovers, full-torso vests/sweater vests, full-torso cardigan sweaters, fleece, or Stroudsburg School District crew neck sweatshirts (of approved colors and size) may be worn.
- Garments with the Stroudsburg Area School District/Athletic and Extra-curricular logo/embroidery/monogramming (polo shirts, sweater/sweater vest, warm ups) may be worn.
- Dresses that meet the standard for collar, sleeve, skirt length, and color may be worn.
- Hooded and thermal tops of any style are not permitted.
- Coaches/Advisors must meet with administration to verify garments worn on game day are appropriate to be worn to school and fit within the spirit of the policy.

**Footwear:**

Color: *Predominately* solid color black, brown, tan or white

Type:

- Shoes, sneakers, boots, sandals with back strap, clogs, or crocs are permitted. Laces must be of same color (*or white*) as shoe/sneaker and tied.
- Shoes/sneakers may have a minor accent color(s) to enhance the predominate color of the shoe (Ex. piping or stripe(s) on shoe). *Patterns of any kind are not permitted (Ex. Checkered Vans, Coach Pattern, etc.)*

- Hosiery or tights may be worn by females (of approved colors, including skin-tone).
- Combat boots, steel-toed work boots (unless specified by course requirement); Doc Martens, slippers, or flip flops are prohibited.
- Shoes/boots may not have heels in excess of 3 inches.

**General Guidelines for Students:**

- **Jewelry:** The District recognizes the right of students to wear jewelry and other adornments. However, certain types and the manner in which they are worn may not be appropriate under certain circumstances and may pose a danger to the student, staff, or interrupt the educational process. There shall be no chains worn, other than those designed as jewelry (no necklaces in excess of 18”). No heavy/thick gauge chains, dog collars, and wallet chains are permitted. Earrings of moderate size (half dollar or 2”), in addition to small stud facial body piercing are permitted. Due to safety concerns, hoop body rings and barbells are not permitted. Band-aids shall not be used to cover body piercing. In the case of the day to day school environment, the administration and/or teaching staff shall require that students remove any jewelry and other adornments which might reasonably be considered as posing a danger, threat to, or interruption of the educational process.
- Clothing, hats, hair ornaments or implements, or any other materials which are considered to indicate gang affiliation are prohibited.
- Head gear shall not be worn in the building, including but not limited to caps, hats, scarves, bandannas, hair nets, head bands, or do-rags. Hair bands of approved colors are permitted.
- Sunglasses, non-prescribed glasses, and unnaturally colored contacts are not permitted.
- Accessories deemed to be distracting, disruptive, or offensive in nature are prohibited.
- Fanny packs are not permitted.
- Clothing and accessories which advertise or promote the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs; or which are offensive, obscene, or immoral; or which are sexually suggestive, or promote statements which are derogatory to any racial, ethnic, or religious group; or which contain double meanings, advocate violent acts, or are gang-related are prohibited.
- Students are to remove their outerwear and head covering/bands/apparel (not dictated by religious beliefs) once they enter the building and place same in their lockers for the remainder of the day; students are not allowed to carry or wear these items during the school day. Hair grooming implements are not to be worn as an accessory.
- Standard apparel may not be embellished or altered in any fashion.

**Transfer Students**

- Upon enrollment in the 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 the Standardized Dress Policy.

**Opt-Out Statement**

- **Religious/Medical/Special Needs Exemption:** If the parent of a student has what they consider to be a bona-fide religious belief, medical, or special needs situation which precludes strict adherence to the Standardized Dress Policy, the student’s parent(s) may fill out the appropriate waiver form and submit all other documentation reasonably requested by the Administration to establish their objection. Parents requesting an exemption from the guidelines will be required to meet with the Superintendent or his/her designee to discuss the guidelines and the nature of the objection necessitating a waiver. Following the meeting, the Superintendent shall render a written decision, approving or denying the requested waiver. Any exemption from the guidelines granted by the Superintendent shall be limited to the minimum variance from the guidelines necessary in light of the specific, bona-fide religious, medical, or special needs situation, which precludes strict compliance. The exception as allowed will be clearly stated.

### Economic Hardship/Crisis Situations

- Families may qualify under certain income guidelines for a standardized dress subsidy. *The district shall develop and maintain a system to provide limited financial assistance to families demonstrating a financial hardship resulting from compliance with the policy, while guarding the privacy of each student. Appropriate forms and information will be available from the Principal of each building implementing the policy, and the family must file a new application each year.*

### Consequence for Non-Compliance

- Failure to abide by the standards set forth will be disciplined according to the following guidelines:
- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued a warning and given the opportunity to change into appropriate dress. If the student does not have appropriate attire to change into and parent can not be reached, the student will be sent to ACE for the remainder of the day. Administration will phone parent with notification of violation.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued a warning and given the opportunity to change into appropriate dress. If the student does not have appropriate attire to change into and parent can not be reached, the student will be sent to ACE for the remainder of the day. Administration will phone parent with notification of violation.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued warning and given the opportunity to change into appropriate dress. If the student does not have appropriate attire to change into and parent can not be reached, the student will be sent to ACE for the remainder of the day. Administration will phone parent with notification of violation.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued a day of ACE and given the opportunity to change into appropriate dress. If the student does not have appropriate attire to change into and parent can not be reached, the student will be sent to ACE for the remainder of the day.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will be issued 3 days of ACE and given the opportunity to change into appropriate dress. If the student does not have appropriate attire to change into and parent can not be reached, the student will be sent to ACE for the remainder of the day.
- At any point the student shows a lack of cooperation or defiant behavior, consequences for such actions will follow student handbook regulations.

*\*\*Students leaving school due to dress code violations will be marked absent unexcused/unlawful for failure to return to school. No make up work will be provided and the student will be considered truant.*

- ~~1<sup>st</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will meet with the Principal or his/her designee. The student will be issued a written warning and given the opportunity to rectify the violation by changing or calling a parent/ guardian to bring the appropriate clothing to school. The parent shall meet with the Principal/designee in order to prevent future violations. If a student does not have the appropriate clothing and a parent is not available, the student will be sent to ACE (in-school suspension) for the remainder of the day.~~
- ~~2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will receive a disciplinary notice for insubordination and will receive 1 day of ACE. For the remainder of that day, guidelines for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense will be followed. In order to return to class the next day after ACE, a parent/guardian must accompany the student for a readmittance conference with the Principal or his/her designee to establish communication in order to prevent future violations. Failure for a parent to accompany his/her child translates into additional days of ACE until the conference is held.~~
- ~~3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent Offenses: The student will be removed from class and sent to the office. The student will receive a disciplinary notice for insubordination and will receive 3 days of ACE. In order to return to class the next~~

	<p>day, a parent/guardian must accompany the student for a readmittance conference with the Principal or designee. Failure for a parent to accompany his/her child translates into additional days of ACE until the conference is held.</p>
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