

Students

Student Dress

In order to maintain an environment conducive to the educational process, the Board of Education prohibits the following from wear during the academic school day:

- a. Clothing considered to be outerwear will be kept in lockers, coat closets or cubbies during regular school hours.
- b. Only head coverings worn as part of a students' religious practice are allowed.
- c. Items disallowed in a. and b. above must be secured in the student's locker or designated storage area before school starts. Items not stored will be confiscated by the Principal.
- d. Footwear will be safe and appropriate, as defined in Board of Education Regulations.
- e. Only prescription eyewear is allowed (clear or photo-gradient).
- f. Only belt buckles 2" x 3" or less are allowed.
- g. Any item that may be used as a weapon or which may present a safety hazard to the student, other students, or staff is not allowed.
- h. Attire or accessories may not be offensive, as defined in Board of Education Regulations.
- i. Clothing (shirts) must cover the abdomen, chest, and undergarments.
- j. Clothing may not be transparent or see-through.
- k. Clothing (shorts, skirts) must cover the mid-thigh and undergarments.
- l. If permitted by the school administration, backpacks and/or book bags may be carried between classes, but shall not obstruct safe passage in the classroom or in the corridors.
- m. Pants and shirts will be appropriately sized, and should not exceed more than two sizes larger than the student's physical size would require.

Students who fail to comply with Board policy and regulations concerning student dress will be subject to school discipline up to and including expulsion in accordance with the Board's policy on student discipline.

Policy adopted: June 21, 1982
 Policy revised: December 20, 1999
 Policy revised: September 11, 2000
 Policy revised: October 2, 2000
 Policy revised: February 7, 2005
 Policy revised: June 19, 2006

EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 East Hartford, Connecticut

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The Board of Education has determined that reasonable regulation of school attire can further important educational interests including:

- (1) Reducing distraction and loss of self-esteem caused by teasing or competition over clothing;
- (2) Providing an environment where students can focus more on learning;
- (3) Enhancing school safety by making it harder to conceal weapons or contraband;
- (4) Creating a greater sense of community amongst the students;
- (5) Preparing students for the future roles in the professional workplace;
- (6) Creating an atmosphere reflecting seriousness of purpose about education;
- (7) Presenting a more positive image to the community;
and
- (8) Minimizing disruption from wearing inappropriate clothing or possessing inappropriate items at school.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children's dress conforms to requirements set forth below. The health, safety and education of the child must be the concern of every parent/guardian. It is the recommendation of professional school personnel that parents/guardians hold their children to the highest standard in regards to school attire.

In order to maintain an environment conducive to the educational process, the Board of Education prohibits the following from wear during the academic school day:

- a. Coats, jackets, or other attire normally worn as outerwear. Outerwear includes: coats, jackets, windbreakers, nylon pullovers, down vests, and other clothing the administration deems inappropriate. Such clothing or outerwear shall not be worn, carried, or kept in the classroom during regular school hours except on the elementary level where it shall be kept in cubbies, closets or storage areas.
- b. Head coverings of any kind, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, masks, headbands, visors, kerchiefs, athletic sweatbands, hats, caps or hoods. Approved coverings worn as part of a student's religious practice or belief shall not be prohibited under this policy. Head coverings shall not be worn, carried, hung on belts or around the neck, or kept in the classroom during regular school hours.
- c. Items a. and b. above must be secured in the student's locker or in a designated storage area, before school starts. Items not stored will be confiscated by the Principal and kept until such time as he/she feels it is appropriate to return them.
- d. Footwear which mars floors, causes damage to floors, excessive noise or is a safety hazard including but not limited to, flip-flops, spike heels, boots.

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Student Dress (continued)

- e. Sunglasses, whether worn or carried or eyewear that is not medically necessary.
- f. Oversized metal belt buckles and all metal belts or belts featuring metal other than the buckle such as chains hanging off the belt or loops.
- g. Spiked or studded bracelets, brass knuckles, oversized or multi-finger rings, belts or any other article of attire with spikes or studs attached, or any other clothing item that may present a safety hazard to the student, other students, or staff.
- h. Attire or accessories which contain overly offensive or disruptive writing or pictures likely to unduly disrupt the educational environment, or which constitute “fighting words”, gang colors, signage, etc., or which depict the logo or emblems of drugs, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages; or attire or accessories that encourage the use of such products.
- i. Shirts and/or blouses which reveal the abdomen, chest, or undergarments.
- j. See-through clothing, tank tops, spaghetti straps or strapless.
- k. Shorts, miniskirts, or pants which reveal the upper thigh or undergarments. Spandex garments are allowed only if they are covered by shorts or skirts.
- l. Pants that reveal any portion of the torso or the undergarments, or that are more than two sizes larger than the student’s physical size would require.
- m. If permitted by the school administration, backpacks and/or book bags may be carried between classes, but shall not obstruct safe passage in the classroom or in the corridors.

Religious and Health Accommodations

Where the bona fide religious beliefs or health needs of a student conflict with the school attire policy, the schools will provide reasonable accommodation. Any student desiring accommodation shall notify their school principal in writing of the requested accommodation and the factual basis for the request. Approved coverings worn as part of a student’s bona fide religious practices or beliefs shall not be prohibited under this policy.

Compliance

School administrators and teachers are encouraged to use positive reinforcement to obtain compliance with school attire requirements. However, when a student fails to comply with the school attire policy, discipline is appropriate. The following discipline procedures shall apply:

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Compliance (continued)

High School:

First Offense:

Removal from class with a chance to correct and return to class. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. (If unable to correct, they will not be allowed to return to class.)

Second Offense:

After-school detention. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.

Third Offense:

In-school suspension. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.

Subsequent Offenses:

Out-of-school suspension. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Upon return to school, clothing must be corrected.

Middle School:

First Offense:

Removal from class with a chance to correct and return to class. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident.

Second Offense:

After school detention. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.

Third Offense:

Extended detention. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.

Subsequent Offenses:

In school suspension issued. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected

Elementary Schools:

First Offense:

Verbal warning, removal from class with a chance to correct and return to class. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident.

Second Offense:

Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.

Third Offense:

Detention. Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.

Subsequent Offenses:

Suspension with parent/guardian conference. Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.