

**Policy**

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DRESS AND GROOMING

The New Jersey State Board of Education regulation concerning dress regulation standards for students, states "attire which causes the disruption of the educational process or which constitutes a health or safety hazard or concern is not permitted." The Dress and Grooming policy of Plainfield Public Schools support apparel choices that are neat, clean and modest. Student apparel should reflect responsibility and self-respect and an atmosphere that is conducive to learning, not destructive or disruptive. This policy is aimed at avoiding suggestive, biased, offensive and harassing messages avoids communicating or advertising illegal substance and activity, and should not interfere with identification of a student. Parents/guardians are expected to cooperate in helping the school district attain its objectives and foster pride and good taste in appearance by exercising positive guidance and authority. Good grooming is expected at all times.

Specific requirements regarding the dress and grooming regulation are as follows:

- A. Clothing that unreasonably exposes the midriff or has an unreasonably low neckline is not permitted in the school building during school hours .The list of restricted items includes but is not limited to:
  1. Backless to the waist tops and dresses;
  2. Tube tops;
  3. Miniskirts /dresses or shorts that are shorter than mid thigh. Undergarments must not be visible;
  4. Clothing should be appropriately sized. Any student wearing oversized tees and/or baggy pants which cause a security breach will be subject to search;
  5. All tank tops;
  6. Pajamas and slippers
- B. Clothing, accessories or jewelry that include messages associated with gangs, alcohol, drugs, tobacco products or other illegal substances or paraphernalia, sexual connotation, indecent/lewd writings or pictures or cartoons images that support or depict of discrimination on the basis of age, handicap, national, origin, martial, status, race religion, sexual orientation or gender are not allowed.
- C. Personal grooming including combing brushing, spraying of perfumes or colognes and applying cosmetics is allowed only in restroom and designated areas.
- D. All pants, slacks, trousers or shorts worn to school must be secured at the waist level. Pants with holes or slashes are not acceptable.
- E. Articles of jewelry that can potentially cause safety concern or hazard or can easily deface school property are not permitted.
- F. Footwear must be worn in the building at all times.

DRESS AND GROOMING (continued)

- G. Head gear is not to be worn in the building during school hours. Hair accessories that compliment student's dress and which pose no safety or identification concern are permitted. Head accessories worn for religious and medical purpose will be permitted if accompanied by a note from an official representative of the religious institution or a parent. Also, student having a medical condition which may require head gear will be permitted if accompanied by a parent note or medical excuse.
- H. No sunglasses may be worn during the school day unless medically prescribed.
- I. Outerwear – students may not wear coats (including knitted hats and other kinds of caps and hoods) during the normal student days these are to be secured in the classrooms, and where available in the student's locker at beginning of the day.

Enforcement of the student dress code by the staff is to be consistent and as objective as possible. The staff shall demonstrate by example appropriate attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty and good sense in attire and appearance.

The administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of dress. The administration is authorized to permit the wearing of hats on special occasion days, such as school spirit day, hat day, etc.

The regular dress code requirements as set forth in this policy may be suspended for classroom, school and/or district activities as appropriate. Any variation of the district dress code policy must be approved by the Chief School Administrator or his/her designee prior to the activity.

Violators of these Student Dress and Grooming Policy will be required to make arrangements to obtain suitable clothing immediately. Failure to comply will result in the student's parents being notified, and/or being sent home. Repeat offenders will be subject to the discipline policy, which may include restricted study, detention, or suspension.

**Adopted:** **May 19, 2009**

Key Word:

Uniforms, Gangs, Dress Code

<b><u>Legal References:</u></b>	<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:11-7</u>	Legislative findings and declaration
	<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:11-8</u>	Adoption of dress codes by boards of Education, Uniforms required; request for code by principal, staff, and parents
	<u>N.J.S.A. 18A:11-9</u>	Adoption of dress code policy prohibiting wearing of clothing indicating membership in certain gangs

<b><u>Possible Cross References:</u></b>	*5111	Admission
	*5125	Pupil records
	*5131	Conduct/discipline
	*5131.5	Vandalism/violence
	*5141.3	Health examinations and immunizations

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.