

STUDENTS

DRESS & GROOMING

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to wear clothing that is suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students shall not wear clothing that presents a health or safety hazard or causes a substantial disruption to the educational program.

District and school rules pertaining to student attire shall be included in student handbooks, may be posted in school offices and classrooms, and may be periodically reviewed with all students as necessary.

Students shall not be prohibited from dressing in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression or with their religious or cultural observance.

In addition, the dress code shall not discriminate against students based on hair texture and protective hairstyles, including, but not limited to, braids, locks, and twists. (Education Code 212.1)

The principal or designee is authorized to enforce this policy and shall inform any student who does not reasonably conform to the dress code. The dress code shall not be enforced in a manner that discriminates against a particular viewpoint or results in a disproportionate application of the dress code based on students' gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, household income, or body type or size.

School administrators, teachers, and other staff shall be notified of appropriate and equitable enforcement of the dress code.

When practical, students shall not be directed to correct a dress code violation during instructional time or in front of other students.

Repeated violations or refusal to comply with the district's dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Gang-Related Apparel

Each school site safety committee may adopt as part of their comprehensive school safety plan, a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a proposed dress code shall be presented to the Board, which shall approve the plan upon

determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school environment. The dress code policy may be included in the school's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 35183)

When determining specific items of clothing that may be defined as gang apparel, the school shall ensure that the determination is free from bias based on race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or other protected characteristics.

### Uniforms

The Board may approve a school-initiated dress code requiring students at the school to wear a school uniform whenever the Board determines that such a dress code will promote student achievement, a positive school climate, and/or student safety.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures whereby parents/guardians may choose to have their children exempted from the school uniform policy. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against, or denied attendance to school if their parents/guardians so decide. (Education Code 35183)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that resources are identified to assist economically disadvantaged students in obtaining uniforms. (Education Code 35183)

### Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

212.1 Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity

220 Prohibition of discrimination

32281 School safety plans

35183 School dress code; uniforms

35183.5 Sun-protective clothing

48907 Exercise of free expression; time, place and manner rules and regulations

49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

#### COURT DECISIONS

Arcadia Unified School District v. California Department of Education, (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 251

Harper v. Poway Unified School District, (2006) 445 App. 3d 166

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, (1988) 108 S. Ct. 562

Jacobs v. Clark County School District, (2008) 26 F. 3d 419

Marvin H. Jeglin et al v. San Jacinto Unified School District et al, (C.D. Cal. 1993) 827 F.Supp. 1459

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District, (1969) 393 U.S. 503

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Adopted: April 18, 2023

STUDENTS

DRESS POLICY

The Corona-Norco Unified School District's Board of Education is legally and ethically responsible for the establishment of classroom and campus environments that are conducive to an orderly and productive educational program. The dress and grooming standards of this policy are required to meet this responsibility and establish minimum standards in the schools of the Corona-Norco Unified School District.

Dress and grooming should fit the school situation. Standards of appearance require careful implementation. In all cases, neatness, health and safety, and appropriateness shall be observed. The Superintendent shall implement regulations that will provide for the enforcement of the requirements included in the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Division 2, Section 302:

Student dress code should be free from stereotypes based on body maturity, body size, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, gender identity, or cultural observance.

The following minimum standards shall be enforced in the Corona-Norco Unified School District in order to meet the requirements of the California Code of Regulations regarding grooming, dress, and appearance and the Education Code regarding free expression. We have organized the dress code policy into two sections so that students and their families understand the acceptable and unacceptable standards of student dress.

Students Must Wear

- Dress that is suitable and safe for school activities. Clothing should correspond with the demands and purpose of the activity and/or course in which students participate.
- Shirt/Top/Dress (must have at least one strap to secure over the shoulder or neck during school and school-sponsored activities) Top apparel shall be worn at an appropriate/acceptable length for the demands and purposes of the activity and/or course in which students participate.
- Pants/Sweatpants/Shorts/Skirt/Dress (that fully cover undergarments and private areas)
- Shoes: activity-specific shoes are required for physical education (PE) and co-curricular activities. Elementary students must have straps on the back of all shoes.
- Attire for activities as part of a specific curriculum (for example, job/career readiness, JROTC) Bathing suits and athletic uniforms should only be worn in designated areas for specific sports activities.
- Students shall be allowed to wear sun-protective clothing, including school-appropriate hats and sunglasses for outdoor use during the school day, without a physician's note or prescription.

Students Cannot Wear

- Clothing or accessories with the following images or language are prohibited:
  - Violence

- depicts drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity) or their use
- includes hate speech, profanity, or pornography (including symbols)
- is likely to create a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class
- is obscene, libelous, or slanderous
- clothing that serves to incite students as to create a clear and present danger
- Visible undergarments are prohibited.
- Undergarments and swimwear of similar design worn as outerwear are prohibited.
- Sunglasses are not permitted in indoor spaces.
- Headwear or clothing that obscures the face (except as a religious observance or health/safety-related guidelines, including health and safety facial coverings) are prohibited.
- In consultation with law enforcement or other gang experts, the school administration may limit clothing or apparel where there is a reasonable basis for identifying such clothing or apparel where a gang is affiliated. Limitations and prohibitions will be applied equally to all students. In no instance will a student's clothing or apparel be identified as gang-related based on the student's race, national origin, or ancestry.

#### Parent Notification of Student Dress Code

The Parent/Student Handbook shall be provided to each student at the beginning of the school year and any student upon enrollment after the beginning of the school year. The school may choose to separately notify parents/guardians of the school's student dress code. This notification should include the following:

1. A copy of the student dress code.
2. Designated contacts should the parent/guardian need economic assistance to comply.
3. Any consequences for failure to follow the student dress code.
4. The complaint procedure and contact person(s) at the school.

#### Progressive Interventions

The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent/guardian. The school district and individual schools are responsible for ensuring that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating environment for any student.

A student who violates the dress code shall be subject to progressive interventions. Dress code violations should be resolved quickly to reduce loss of instructional time and addressed privately with individual students. No academic grade of a student shall be adversely affected based on non-compliance with the dress code, except Physical Education when failure to wear appropriate apparel arises from circumstances within the student's control. (See EC Section 49066(c)).

School sites will implement the following progressive interventions for dress code violations:

- Warning and self-correct dress code violation
- Offer students a change of nondescript and/or school-specific clothing

- Offer parent/guardian the opportunity to bring a change of clothes
- Repeated violations may result in a parent-school conference and/or other means of correction

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

212.1 Nondiscrimination based on race or ethnicity 220 Nondiscrimination

32281 School safety plans

35183 School dress codes; uniforms 35183.5 Sun-protective clothing

48907 Student exercise of free expression

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COURT DECISIONS

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Hartzell v. Connell (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

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Legal References: California Code of Regulations Title V, Section 302:  
Education Codes 32281, 35183 35291, 48907, 48901.5

Administrative Regulation Dated: \_\_\_\_\_