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Revised Policy

5511 - DRESS AND GROOMING

The School Board 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~~ School Corporation.

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. (X) present a hazard to the health or safety of the student ~~himself/herself~~ or to others in the school;
- B. (X) interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. (X) cause excessive wear or damage to ~~school~~ Corporation property;
- D. (X) 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 Corporation at a public event.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which:

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

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

The established dress code shall be upheld in a nondiscriminatory and uniform manner.

[DRAFTING NOTE: By way of example, students should be permitted to wear clothing that is typical of the gender with which they identify and not required to wear clothing that is typical of their birth gender. This also applies to school uniforms.]

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