

HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY ON STUDENT DRESS
Revised 2005-06

The Board of Education recognizes the rights of students to express their individuality through their attire. It also recognizes the rights and responsibilities of parents to determine the standards of dress for their children. On the other hand, the Board of Education has a responsibility to assure that the atmosphere in schools is conducive to learning.

Balancing these factors, the Board adopts a dress policy for students that is only minimally restrictive, but sets standards for grooming and appearance during school hours and at school functions. This policy is being enforced even-handedly at all times and reviewed regularly for reasonableness, consistent with community attitudes.

The following guidelines are established:

1. Student attire shall be neat and clean. Clothing shall cover the torso and legs to mid-thigh.
2. Clothing shall not be transparent, distracting, or disruptive to the school environment.
3. Attire must not be destructive of school property.
4. Dress shall comply with the safety or health codes of the State of New Jersey.
5. Tank tops, halters, tube tops, and bathing suits are not permitted. Sweatshirts, warm-up and T-shirts are permitted, if they are not torn and if they are not cut, tied or hemmed to expose the midriff. No exposure of undergarments or buttocks.
6. Shorts and skirts shall be permitted provided their length conforms to item #1 of this policy and that they are consistent with this policy in all other aspects.
7. Footwear is required. **Beach thongs and flip-flops are not permitted.**
8. Except for religious and/or cultural purposes, head coverings may not be worn in school.
9. Safety and protective clothing, as well as athletic and gym clothing, shall be worn as required by the subject teacher or club instructor only while participating during the activity. **No pajamas or scrubs.**
10. Students attending any school functions, during school hours, will not be permitted to participate unless they are attired in conformity with this policy.

*Disciplinary action shall be taken with any student violating this policy.