

**STUDENT DRESS**

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The Bangor School Committee recognizes that responsibility for the dress and appearance of students rests with individual students and their parent(s)/guardian(s). The Committee will not interfere with this right unless the personal choices of students create a disruptive influence on the school program or affect the health or safety of others.

Students are encouraged to use sound judgment and reflect respect for themselves and others in dress and grooming. In keeping with the goals of the school department to provide a safe, healthy, and non-discriminatory environment free of harassment for educating students for maximum academic and social development, the following restrictions on dress shall be enforced while in school buildings, on school grounds (when school is in session), at school functions, in school vehicles, on school property, and at school-sponsored activities. Students shall not wear:

- A. Articles of clothing that promote the use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs, or weapons.
- B. Clothing, footwear, insignia, or accessories that are intended to identify the wearer as a member of a particular gang.
- C. Articles of clothing with displays that are sexual, vulgar, lewd, or indecent or include insulting words (e.g., racial/ethnic slurs) or symbols.
- D. Articles of clothing with displays that are racially inflammatory, include hate speech, and/or violate the School Committee's discrimination or harassment policies or policies regarding self-expression.
- E. Clothing that is destructive of school property (e.g., cleats, pants with metal inserts that scratch furniture).

School administrators or teachers may require special clothing for health and safety reasons for students participating in physical education, certain extracurricular activities, work with or around machines or other activities. However, no particular brand may be required.

Guidelines for student dress, which will be developed and enforced by the administration in individual schools, shall be written in a manner free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, physical or mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, or genetic information.

The administration recognizes the responsibility of the individual student to dress in a manner that reflects respect for self and others and will address concerns with student attire individually and respectfully. In cases where an administrator determines that clothing is not consistent with this individual responsibility, the student will be expected to change their dress before continuing the school day. Parents of students requesting accommodation for religious beliefs, disabilities, or other grounds should contact the principal.

The Superintendent is responsible for the development of any administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

Cross Reference: JICAA – Student Self-Expression



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ADOPTED: August 19, 2020

