

Purpose

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

Authority

The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or constitute a health or safety hazard.[\[1\]\[2\]](#)

The Board shall require students to wear standard dress, as stipulated in Board policy.[\[1\]\[2\]](#)

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.[\[2\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.[\[2\]](#)

Exceptions to the Dress Code may be made by the Superintendent for medical or religious reasons.

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.[\[3\]](#)

Guidelines

Dress Code

The Board has adopted this school Dress Code for all grades K through 12. The Dress Code shall be strictly enforced pursuant to discipline guidelines.

All students shall attend school each day in accordance to the Dress Code.

The Board or the approved dress code committee must approve all changes to this Dress Code.

Embroidery/Monogramming with Hazleton Area School District, HAHS Band, or HAHS Cheerleader or other respective school logo is optional, as sanctioned by the dress code committee.

All clothing must be appropriately sized for the student, that is, clothing must be no more than one (1) regular size larger than the student actually measures. Extra-wide, extra-full, extra-long, baggy or sagging pants and shorts are not acceptable.

Clothing may be purchased at any store/vendor as long as clothing conforms to this Dress Code.

Shirts may be worn outside the pants, but the bottom of the shirt cannot extend past the middle of the pants pocket, and dress shirts must be tucked inside the pants. If the shirt exceeds acceptable length, it must be tucked inside the pants. Jeans are permitted as long as there are no holes in them.

Only clear or mesh backpacks are permitted in K-8 school buildings, in accordance with school guidelines. Backpacks are not permitted in 9-12 buildings.

Closed shoes or sneakers with socks/stockings must be worn.

Articles of Noncompliance

This list is only a guide and **not** complete. Variations of this list will be addressed by the building level administrator or designee.

1. No hoodies/jackets during school hours
2. No holes in jeans/clothing that exposes skin
3. No underwear showing – pants must be around waist
4. No sliders, crocs, platform shoes

Discipline Guidelines

The following discipline guidelines apply to student in all grades K through 12:

1. **First** Offense – At the direction of the principal, the student shall be retained in the office until the student/parent/guardian provides a proper change of clothing, not to exceed one (1) day. If a parent/guardian is unable to provide a change of clothing, the school will issue something in compliance, when extra clothing is available.
2. **Second** Offense – The student shall receive in-school suspension.[4]
3. **Third** Offense – This and all subsequent violations shall result in loss of privileges and/or out-of-school suspension.[4]

Classes missed because of noncompliance with the Dress Code shall be governed by the attendance policy.[5]

When possible, the school shall attempt to provide a student who is wearing a noncompliant top with a top that is in compliance. Discipline shall still apply.

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 1317.3](#)

[2. 22 PA Code 12.11](#)

3. Pol. 325

4. Pol. 233

5. Pol. 204