

# Maricopa Unified School District

## Board Policy

### Students

#### Dress And Grooming

**BP 5132**

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process.

(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)  
(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress and grooming standards at the beginning of the school year and whenever these standards are revised. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

#### Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish 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 dress code may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school's students.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)  
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)

#### Uniforms

In order to promote student safety and discourage theft, peer rivalry and/or gang activity, the principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code requiring students to wear uniforms. Such a dress code may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school's students.

If a school's plan to require uniforms is adopted, 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.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35183 School dress codes; uniforms

32281 School safety plans

48907 Student exercise of free expression

49066 Grades; effect of physical education class apparel

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

302 Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school

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

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

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

(3/92 10/94) 10/96

MUSD Board Adopted: 11/9/96

Reviewed/Revised: 12/10/15

# Maricopa Unified School District

## Administrative Regulation

### Students

#### Dress and Grooming

AR 5132

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Governing Board policy and administrative regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

(cf. 0420 - School Plans/Site Councils)

Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day. (Education Code 35183.5)

Students wearing inappropriate items or not meeting the standards set forth below will contact parents/guardians to help rectify the dress code violation (i.e. bring a change of clothing). If parent is unavailable, clothing may be loaned for students to change into to meet standards. These rules pertain to all elementary, middle, and high school students. Repeat violations will be addressed within the Discipline Matrix.

The following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Daily attire need not be expensive to be attractive and entirely acceptable, but all students must wear clothing which is neat, clean and safe. Student dress, personal appearance, and conduct is required so as not to distract the disciplinary control of the staff or interfere with the learning process.
2. Wearing apparel that advocates the use of or promotes illegal activity, tobacco, drug or alcoholic products or sexually suggestive (obscene) behavior or detracts from the educational process or safety will not be allowed. Buttons, badges, pictures, hats, jewelry and insignias that are disruptive are not allowed.
3. Excessively baggy/large trousers, pants, and overalls with loose straps may not be worn. Pants must be worn at the waist; no sagging or bagging. No wallet chains, or long key chains may be brought to school for any reason. If a belt is worn, the end of the belt may not hang down. Shirts must be of a reasonable length or tucked into pants. Boys must keep their shirts on and buttoned unless a full t-shirt is worn underneath. Pants and shorts are too baggy when the two pant side seams of an individual pant leg are brought to the front on the mid-thigh and the side seams touch.
4. Clothing that is tight-fitting, excessively revealing, or which shows the bare midriff

will not be permitted. Backless halter tops, bathing suit tops, tube tops, shirts with excessively low arm pits, or necklines will not be allowed. Students in grades K-12 may not wear spaghetti straps or tops that do not cover bra straps or are excessively revealing. In grades K-3 girls sun-dresses will be allowed. Length of shorts must be mid-thigh. Underwear (such as boxer shorts and sports bras, etc) may not be worn as outer garments.

5. Hats may be worn outdoors only, and must be removed before entering the building (exception: hat may be worn while carrying lunch tray to seat in Cafeteria and then removed). Bandannas and hair nets (except for food service or special school events) are not allowed. No bare feet or unsafe/disruptive footwear will be allowed (i.e. rubber thongs and slippers). Shoes with back straps are recommended for middle and high school students. Shoes with back straps are required for K-5 students. Shoes that are appropriate for school activities must be worn at all times. Shoes with cleats, spikes, steel toes or excessive high heels are not allowed.
6. Facial body piercing ornaments must be small stud, post, or hoop(s). No large piercings that administration considers unsafe will be not allowed. Unsafe ear ornaments are not allowed. (spikes, large hoops)
7. Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes.

The site administrator shall have the discretion to make reasonable exceptions to the above restrictions for Special Days or events.

(cf. 3260 - Fees and Charges)

Students are required to wear a change of clothing for PE classes. Students PE grade may be affected for not dressing out for PE. No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

#### Gang-Related Apparel

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and

safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus.  
(Education Code 32282)

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.

## Uniforms

In schools where a schoolwide uniform is required, the principal, staff and parents/guardians of the individual school shall jointly select the specific uniform to be worn. (Education Code 35183)

At least six months before a school uniform policy is implemented, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of this policy. (Education Code 35183)

Parents/guardians shall also be informed of their right to have their child exempted.

The principal or designee shall also repeat this notification at the end of the school year so that parents/guardians are reminded before school clothes are likely to be purchased.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish criteria for determining student eligibility for financial assistance when purchasing uniforms.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a method for recycling or exchanging uniforms as students grow out of them.

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting.  
(Education Code 35183)

(10/94 10/96) 11/01  
MUSD Board Adopted: 11/9/96  
Reviewed/Revised: 12/10/15