

STUDENT CONDUCT  
DRESS CODE

FNCA  
(LOCAL)

PURPOSE	The use of school uniforms is established to improve students' self-esteem, reduce ethnic/racial tensions, bridge socioeconomic differences among students, and promote positive behavior, thereby enhancing school safety and improving the learning environment.
MANDATORY UNIFORMS	Upon recommendation of its Campus Educational Improvement Council, a school with grades 6-8 may implement a mandatory uniform requirement in accordance with the provisions below.
GENERAL GUIDELINES	Each school shall communicate to parents and students the specific mandatory uniform requirements, describing in detail the specific uniform and assigning personnel the task of facilitating implementation of financial assistance programs.
INFORMATION	<p>Information to be disseminated to parents includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Types and colors of the uniform;</li><li>2. Requirements for jackets/outer garments;</li><li>3. Optional articles of attire, if any;</li><li>4. Availability of financial support and the procedures for application for such;</li><li>5. Compliance measures;</li><li>6. Methods for facilitating recycling of uniforms within the school community; and</li><li>7. Lists of competitive prices from vendors of uniform articles.</li></ol> <p>The means for communicating the information shall include two or more of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. News media announcements;</li><li>2. District or school newsletters;</li><li>3. PTA meetings or parent forums;</li><li>4. Telephone notification or mailings to parents;</li><li>5. Registration materials.</li></ol>
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	<p>Prior to the implementation of a mandatory uniform policy, each school shall prepare a flyer describing in detail the uniform and listing the range of costs for each competitively priced item of clothing as provided by a variety of vendors. In addition, each school shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Develop procedures/criteria for identifying students in need of financial assistance;</li></ol>

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2. Determine the form and extent of financial assistance to be provided for the individual school community;
3. Designate a specific staff member or school volunteer to provide assistance to families in severe financial hardship;
4. Ensure that parents in need of financial assistance are able to access some source of financial assistance by phone, mail, or in person.

The District shall compile and maintain a list of community agencies, uniform retailers, organizations, and individuals willing to assist students in need and shall establish procedures to link identified resources with participating schools.

COMPLIANCE

To ensure a smooth transition to the mandatory uniform policy, a five-day grace period shall be observed by each participating school during its first year of implementation.

Once the uniform policy is in full force, however, failure to adhere to the prevailing dress code may result in disciplinary action as provided in the Student Handbook/Student Code of Conduct.

Requests for exemption from the mandatory uniform requirement shall be handled in accordance with the appeals section of the Student Handbook/Student Code of Conduct.

EVALUATION

The District shall design an evaluation instrument to measure the effect of the mandatory uniform on the overall instructional program. Participating schools shall be evaluated at the end of the first two years of implementation. Thereafter, the evaluation of the uniform program shall be included in the school's regular review process.