



**Santa Barbara Unified**  
Every child, every chance, every day.

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## **Dress Code Policy**

The Santa Barbara Unified School District is committed to establishing a safe and secure learning environment. While a student's attire is generally at the discretion of a parent/guardian, appropriate dress standards are necessary for the healthy, safe and uninterrupted operation of a school.

The district's dress code policy will be enforced consistently and fairly on all school campuses and at school sponsored functions. Additionally, each individual school site reserves the right to add items to the district's dress code as necessary for the health and safety of the school environment. School sites are responsible for notifying the students and parents of established site standards.

### **Appropriate Dress Standards**

Our district's students are prohibited from wearing clothing that (a) causes an actual distraction from or disturbance of any school activity, or interferes with participation of a student in a school activity or (b) creates a health or safety hazard, or (c) impedes in the learning of self or others.

1. **Clean and Neat Dress:** Students shall be neatly dressed and shall show proper attention to personal cleanliness. Students shall wear clothing that fits properly and which does not expose the torso or undergarments.
2. **Footwear:** Safe footwear is required at all times.\*
3. **Headwear and Sunglasses:** Students shall not wear hats, handkerchiefs, bandanas or other kinds of head coverings inside district buildings, except as part of a religious observation or custom. Students shall not wear dark glasses or sunglasses indoors unless a student has a valid medical note on file at the school site.

Each school site shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing while outdoors during the school day and during school functions open to the public. The type of sun-protective clothing permitted at a school site is determined by the individual site.

4. **Dangerous Clothing:** Students shall not wear any clothing that may be used as a weapon, including but not limited to, steel toed boots, long waist chains, items with spikes or studs and other items deemed inappropriate by an individual school site.
5. **Writing, Insignias and Pictures:** Students shall not wear clothing, jewelry, hairstyles, bodyart, or other personal effects with writing, insignia or pictures which disrupt the educational process. This includes, but is not limited to, writings, insignia and pictures that:
  - display commonly known gang and gang affiliation symbols;
  - display products or slogans which promote alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence or sex;
  - are obscene, libelous, slanderous or profane;
  - create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts, violation of school regulations or injury to the people or property of the school community;
  - discriminate against others or are violations of hate-crime laws.

### **Consequences for Dress Code Violation**

Students who fail to follow the provisions of the dress code will be held accountable in accordance with the established district/site discipline policy. Staff and administrators will refer to the SB Unified Discipline Ladder when working with students who are not following dress code.

- First Offense: Student conference with teacher and attire altered;
- Second Offense: Attire altered. Teacher conference with parent and student;
- Third Offense: Attire altered. Administrator, teacher, parent, and student meeting.

Persistent and flagrant violations of the dress code may result in further consequences as allowed by the California Education Code.

#### *Legal Reference*

*California Education Code sections 32282, 35160, 35183*

*Jeglin v. San Jacinto Unified Sch. Dist. (C.D. Cal. 1993) 827 F.Supp. 1459*

#### **\*Safe Footwear**

Of great concern regarding student safety is the style of footwear appropriate for students. To reduce the risk of injury, the following footwear guidelines will apply to students in the Santa Barbara Unified School District:

- Shoes must be worn at all times. Site administration reserves the right to determine the safety of footwear on any given occasion.
- No student shall wear shoes with wheels, heels exceeding 3" in height, slippers (e.g., ballet, bedroom, etc.), or any shoes that disrupts the instructional process.
- Students must wear appropriate athletic shoes during recess or physical education activities for safety reasons. Specialized footwear (e.g., cleats) shall only be worn during appropriate activities.
- Students in grades K-6 may not wear backless shoes (footwear without heel straps); students 7-12 may wear sandals or similar styles as long as they do not present a safety concern.

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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