

STUDENT UNIFORMS

The Oklahoma City Board of Education requires the wearing of student uniforms for all schools within the District in order to promote and to maintain an orderly and safe learning environment, to eliminate distractions while at school so as to increase the focus on instruction, to minimize socio-economic differences so that all students are treated equally, and to encourage and to promote professional and responsible dress for all students. In recognition of the right of students to express themselves in the manner of dress, students have the right to choose their own grooming and clothing styles subject to the requirements of this policy. This policy does not apply to sites where District provides educational services to students pursuant to a contract for extended educational services or to any other sites where District personnel are not in control of the operation of the facility.

Generally, students should regard neatness and cleanliness in grooming and clothing as important. Dress or grooming which is in any way disruptive to the operation of the school will not be permitted.

Principals, in conjunction with sponsors, coaches, or other persons in charge of extracurricular activities, may regulate dress and grooming of students who participate in a particular activity if the principal reasonably believes that the student's dress or grooming creates a hazard, or may prevent, interfere with, or adversely affect the purpose, direction, or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals. Exceptions to the student uniform may be made to meet needs of specific classes such as extracurricular activities. Additionally, principals may designate days for students to wear particular attire in recognition of school-wide events such as 89er Day, Spirit Day, etc. and may provide for days when the student uniform shall not apply.

No student shall be denied attendance at school or be otherwise penalized for failing to wear clothing that complies with the school uniform if such failure is due to financial hardship. Any student who may not be able to comply with the school's uniform requirements should advise the principal that obtaining the required uniform will present a financial burden. Each school site shall develop procedures and criteria to offer to assist students who would have or are having difficulty complying with their school's uniform requirements due to financial hardships and shall develop a program to assist students in obtaining clothes which comply with the uniform. A school site may establish a trade or resale plan for re-usable uniforms either through a student organization or a parent organization as a fund raising mechanism. A school site may provide for donations of clothing or financial assistance, operate a clothing closet where extra uniforms are kept, or provide coupons for stores that sell or provide clothing that meets the requirements of this uniform policy. Each school is encouraged to accept donations from the community, businesses, PTA, and other supporters for the purpose of meeting the needs of students for assistance with the cost of uniforms.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct. Students enrolling in Oklahoma City Public Schools for the first time during the school year shall be granted a grace period up to twenty (20) school days before being required to comply with the required uniform.

The following guidelines apply to all students in District schools and apply to students while in attendance at school or school-sponsored events:

General:

- Clothing worn to school shall not be torn, cut-up, or slit and must be appropriately sized for the student.
- Students shall not wear bedtime attire, such as pajamas, and shall not wear undershirts, undergarments, or spandex as outerwear.
- Students shall not wear clothing that reveals the chest such as net shirts, undershirts, see-through blouses, halter tops, or tube tops or clothing that exposes a bare midriff, bodice, abdomen, or buttocks, or exposes undergarments.
- Students shall not wear any clothing (including outerwear), jewelry, accessories, or display tattoos that contain messages or images that are obscene, vulgar, or related to tobacco, drugs, alcohol, sex, and/or violence.
- Students may wear to school the uniforms designated by service/civic organizations including but not limited to JROTC, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownies, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, or Blue Birds.
- For safety and employment training purposes, students attending career-technology centers will wear the uniform of the program in which they are enrolled if applicable. If there is no uniform for the program in which they are enrolled, then students must comply with the uniform for the high school they attend.

Pants/Slacks/Skirts/Shorts/Skorts/Dresses:

- Each school site's building administrator shall designate no more than three (3) colors of pants, slacks, skirts, shorts, skorts, or dresses which may be worn but one color must be khaki.
- Pants, slacks, skirts, shorts, and skorts shall be appropriately fastened at the waist. No sagging or "low rise" clothing is allowed.
- Leggings may be worn only as an accessory under skirts, skorts, or dresses that meet uniform requirements and may only be white, black, or navy.
- Hemlines must be of modest length not above the fingertip of the wearer with the arm fully extended.

Shirts:

- Each school site's building administrator shall designate no more than three (3) colors and types of shirts, which may be worn but one color must be white.
- Shirts may be long or short-sleeved and may be collared or without collars as designated by the school site.
- Shirts may not have visible insignias, logos, labels, words, or pictures except approved school logos or names.
- Shoulder straps of shirts which are visible must be a minimum of the width of two fingers of the person wearing the garment.
- Shirts/blouses must be appropriately buttoned or zipped.

Footwear:

- Students shall wear shoes and/or footwear at all times while on school property, including busses, and shoes with laces must be tied for safety.
- Students shall not wear flip-flops, beach, pool wear shoes, or house shoes.

Outerwear:

- Students may wear plain sweatshirts, sweaters, or vests without hoods in the same colors as shirts designated for the school uniform. Sweaters, sweatshirts, or vests may have school approved logos and/or names but no other insignias, logos, words, or pictures.
- Coats may not be worn inside the building during the school day but shall be worn to school and placed in the student's locker or hung in the student's classroom or another location designated by the principal. The principal may make an exception if the building and/or classroom is unusually cold.

Hats/Jewelry/Accessories:

- Students may not wear caps, hats, or head coverings of any kind, including but not limited to, scarves, bandanas, and sweat bands inside a school building except for students with religious beliefs requiring a head covering, for medical reasons, or as approved by the school's administration for a special school activity.
- Jewelry and accessories which pose a safety concern for the student or others are prohibited.
- If a student wears a belt, the belt must be solid color, worn in the belt loops of the clothing, and appropriately fastened with a plain belt buckle.

Each school site's building administrator shall provide to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, the colors selected for that site's uniform. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall prepare and make available to the community an OKCPS School Color Chart which lists the schools and the designated colors for that site's uniform. Once a school site has selected the colors to be worn for that school's uniform, the colors may not be changed for three (3) school years. Once every three school (3) years, a school may recommend to the Board of Education that the school's colors be changed provided that the school has given parents/guardians the opportunity to vote on the proposed changes and at least fifty percent (50%) of the parents/guardians voting have agreed with the proposed change. Only one parent/guardian shall have a vote, and only one vote per family regardless of the number of students attending the school. If a proposed change is approved by the Board of Education, the change shall not be effective until the beginning of the next school year.