

File: JFCAA

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING/UNIFORM DRESS CODE

The Petersburg School Board recognizes the right of students and their parents to exercise personal judgment, within certain boundaries, in matters of dress and grooming. The Board also recognizes that neatly attired and well-groomed students take more pride in themselves and are more likely to practice habits of self-discipline and to display a more positive attitude and demeanor toward all aspects of the division's educational program. Appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a more productive learning environment. Also, as with any public facility, the safety of the persons within that facility is first and foremost of the utmost importance. In the public schools of Petersburg, safety is an issue. In order to assure that our students are as safe as possible while within the confines of these buildings of learning, the School Board strongly endorses the following rules and dress code.

The Petersburg school division shall draft and shall enforce a school dress code, in accordance with the Standards of Conduct provisions. The dress code shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices that:

Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others.

Interfere materially with schoolwork or school activities.

Create any disorder or disrupt the educational program.

Block vision or restrict movement.

Display vulgar or offensive language, regardless of the message.

Display any indication of membership in or affiliation with any gang or criminal activity.

Display any indication of illegal substances.

The division's dress code shall also include the following:

Shirts and blouses shall be tucked into pants, shorts, skirts, or slacks.

Pants, shorts and skirts shall be worn at the natural waist in a manner that no undergarment is visible.

Belts shall be worn through the belt loops of pants, shorts and skirts, etc., and shall be buckled at all times.

Pajama type clothing or transparent garments shall not be worn.

Shorts, slacks, dresses and skirts (which must be full-cut) shall not be shorter than two inches above the knee when standing or five inches above the knee when sitting, except when in physical education class.

Skin-tight, revealing clothing and/or low-necks shirts are not allowed.

Head gear, including hats, caps, bandannas, do-rags, or other head covers shall not be worn inside the school building unless worn in connection with an approved school activity, unless worn because of a valid religious belief, or unless worn because of a valid medical need.

Writing across the seat of pants, shorts or skirts is not allowed.

Shoe-strings must be tied on shoes that have a place for them and straps on shoes that have straps must be strapped on at all times.

Flip-flops, bedroom shoes and bare feet are not allowed.

Open-back shoes that are not securely attached to the feet are not allowed in elementary schools.

High heels are not allowed in elementary schools, heels must not exceed one inch in the middle and junior high schools and heels must not exceed two inches in high school.

All shoes must be well fitting, no backs out, and all shoes tied.

Jewelry is at a minimum and addressed per grade level.

All students must be neat, clean and practice good hygiene.

All students must have clothing that the sizes are proportionate to the student's body size.

Students in kindergarten through grade seven shall wear uniforms as outlined in the regulations to this policy.

Exceptions to the content of this policy shall not be made unless compliance is in conflict with valid religious beliefs and practices.

Students and parents shall be informed about the school's dress code at the beginning of the school year or at any time during the year when the dress code is revised.

Adopted: 8/19/98

Revised: 9/6/06; 7/1/07; 7/25/07; 5/21/08

Legal Refs.: *Code of Virginia*, as amended, § 22.1-79.2

Broussard v. Sch. Bd. Of City of Norfolk, 801 F. Supp. 1526 (E.D.Va. 1992)

Tinker v Des Moines Independent School District, 89 S.Ct.7 (1969)

Cross Refs.: JFCE Gang Activity of Association

JFC Student Conduct

JFC-R Student Code of Conduct

JGD/JGE Suspension and Expulsion of Students

File: JFCAA-R

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

The following uniform guidelines shall apply to all students in Grades K-5:

Students shall wear uniformed clothing consisting of navy blue bottoms (but not blue jeans or denim) and white, baby blue, or navy tops every school day

The bottom may consist of long pants, shorts, skirts, Capri-pants, or jumpers

The tops may consist of a long or short sleeve polo type shirt, or a long or short sleeve blouse or dress shirt

Sweaters, vests, and jackets will be permitted as long as they conform with the official uniform

Shoes are to be black, white, blue, or brown tennis, loafer, ankle boots, or dress style and cannot be skate shoes

Shoes must cover the entire foot

Boots, no higher than the knee, will be permitted in the appropriate season

Students who are active in another organization for which he or she must wear another type of uniform for activities during or directly after school (such as the scouts) and for the convenience of the parent, such students will be permitted to wear that uniform to school

Principals shall have the authority to schedule for school spirit days on which students may wear school spirit attire.

The following uniform guidelines shall apply to all students in Grades 6 and 7:

Students shall wear uniformed clothing consisting of beige, black or blue khaki (cotton) pants, skirts, or shorts (but not blue jeans or denim) and gold (variations in this color are acceptable) or white polo type or dress type shirts or blouses.

Students may wear school spirit monogrammed tee shirts/sweat shirts for which the school shall contact vendors for such attire.

Students may wear any color tennis shoes or black or brown dress shoe or loafer; however, heels shall not exceed one inch. Boots are acceptable in the appropriate season.

Sweaters, sweatshirts, vests, and jackets worn during the school day are permitted as long as they conform to the school colors.

No oversized clothing shall be permitted; clothing sizes shall be proportionate to the body size.

The uniform policy shall be in affect whenever students attend school functions for students only.

Exceptions to the policy will be determined by the school's administration.

Provisions shall be made for parents who truly cannot afford to purchase school uniform clothing and who can demonstrate that need. PETERSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
PETERSBURG, VA

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School administrators shall carefully and completely document, in writing, all actions related to violations of the division's dress code.

When a violation is detected the principal or a designee shall counsel with the student and attempt to have the student correct the infraction. If the problem cannot be corrected immediately, a call, in the presence of the student, to a parent or guardian shall be made explaining the problem. The parent shall be requested to bring clothing to school that will correct the problem or the parent will be requested to come and take the student home for such correction.

If the parent cannot be contacted immediately or the parent cannot or will not come as requested, the student will remain in the office or in a supervised location until the end of the school day. If the parent has not been contacted before the end of the school day, a letter, signed by the principal or designee, is to be sent home to the parent by the student stating the problem and indicating that the student may be given in-school suspension, after school detention (with the parent responsible for transportation home), denial of participation in extra-curricular activities, or out-of-school suspension. The letter shall further request the parent to accompany the student to school the next school day or to keep the student at home until the parent can come to the school for a conference.

Should a student's parent or guardian not come for a conference or should a student continue to fail in complying with the dress code, the principal shall suspend the student for five school days. A parental conference shall be mandatory if suspension takes place before the student can return to school. If non-compliance with the dress code continues, the case shall be referred to the placement committee.