

Students

Dress and Grooming

The administration will take appropriate determination on the newest clothing fads or styles as they pertain to this dress policy. The administration will determine what attire is unclean and dangerous, or distracts from the educational process. The following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Students must wear proper and safe footwear. Any footwear deemed dangerous to the student or others will be prohibited.
2. Sexually provocative clothing is not permitted: short shorts, see-through clothing, no shirts and garments designed or worn in such manner as to expose parts of the body constituting what generally is considered immodesty.
3. Clothing bearing messages that countervail the educational process – profanity, sexual suggestiveness, images of or sayings related to the drug/alcohol culture, insignias or other apparel that advertises membership in a gang, messages that incite violence, are not permitted.
4. Articles that are part of one’s attire but also designed so that they can be used as weapons – rings that simulate brass knuckles, belt buckles with the edges sharpened, nailed or cleated shoes, jewelry obviously designed to inflict injury are not permitted.
5. Grooming/apparel or lack thereof that constitute a safety hazard is not permitted.
6. All students two years of age and older shall wear a cloth face covering in school and during school-sponsored activities. The use of cloth face coverings targets “the spread of a novel virus for which there currently is no cure or effective treatment.” *Geller*, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 87405, *10. Scientific and medical communities believe that requiring cloth face coverings is crucial to any strategy of containment. Schools have an established general duty “to take reasonable measures to ensure the safety of the minors over whom they have assumed custody.” *Munn v. Hotchkiss Sch.*, 326 Conn. 540, 566, 165 A.3d 1167 (2017).
 - Students who are deaf or hard of hearing: A clear face covering shall be used to allow for lip-reading. If a clear face covering is not available, a cloth face covering will be used and an alternative to lip-reading, e.g., written communication, closed captioning, or endeavor to decrease background noise to make communication possible while wearing a cloth face covering that blocks lips.
 - Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental health conditions or other sensory sensitivities should consult with their healthcare provider for advice about wearing cloth face coverings.

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- Students swimming or engaged in water activities shall remove their cloth face covering and maintain the proper social distance from others when in the water; if the proper social distance from others cannot be maintained, the student shall disengage in the water activity and wear a cloth face covering.
- Students participating in indoor high intensity activities, like running, shall wear a cloth face covering. Students participating in outdoor high intensity activities, like running, shall wear a cloth face covering unless it is possible to maintain the proper social distance from others.
- Cloth face coverings should **not** be worn by:
 - Children younger than 2 years old
 - Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

This policy supersedes any other Board policy that might be inconsistent with it.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
Geller, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 87405, *10
Munn v. Hotchkiss Sch., 326 Conn. 540, 566, 165 A.3d 1167 (2017).
Jacobson v. Massachusetts, 197 U.S. 11, 38, 25 S. Ct. 358, 49 L. Ed. 643 (1905).
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov.