

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Costa Mesa, California

SUPERINTENDENT'S POLICY PROCEDURE

100-25

**Dress and Grooming**

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with law, Orange County Department of Education policy and procedures. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed.

Each school shall allow students to wear sun-protective clothing, including but not limited to hats, for outdoor use during the school day.

In addition, the following guidelines shall apply to all regular school activities:

1. Shoes must be worn at all times.
2. Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, fanny packs, gym bags, water bottles etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive, which bear drug, alcohol or tobacco company advertising, promotions and likenesses, or which advocate racial, ethnic or religious prejudice.
3. Hats, caps and other head coverings shall not be worn indoors. This policy does not apply to head coverings associated with an individual's sincerely held religious beliefs or a documented medical condition.
4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through or fish-net fabrics, halter tops, off-the-shoulder or low-cut tops, bare midriffs and skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are prohibited.
5. Gym shorts may not be worn in classes other than physical education.
6. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Hair may not be sprayed by any coloring that would drip when wet.

Coaches and teachers may impose more stringent dress requirements to accommodate the special needs of certain sports and/or classes.

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected if the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel because of circumstances beyond the student's control.

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardians at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming procedures for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

### *Gang-Related Apparel*

At individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus.

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received.