

The Board of Education recognizes each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of the student's personal style and individual preferences. The Board will inform students and parent(s) when a student's dress and grooming affect the educational program of the schools.

Students may not wear clothing or engage in grooming practices that present a health or safety hazard to the individual student or to others; materially interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program; cause excessive wear or damage to school property; or prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

The Saddle Brook Board of Education prohibits students from wearing, while on school property, any type of clothing, apparel or accessories which indicate that the student has membership or affiliation with any gang associated with criminal activities. The Board authorizes administration to consult with the local law enforcement agencies in identifying potential gang affiliation in the district's uniforms.

The Administration shall determine whether the dress or grooming of students comes within these prohibitions.

Staff members shall demonstrate by example and personal conduct positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

School Uniform Provision

The Board believes school dress can influence positive student behavior and enhance a school's learning environment. Therefore, the Board adopts a School Uniform Provision of this Dress and Grooming Policy to require students at all Saddle Brook Elementary, Middle and High Schools to wear a school uniform:

The School Uniform Provision of this Policy shall be implemented in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-7 and 18A:11-8.

This school uniform policy does not prohibit students who participate in nationally recognized youth organizations, which are approved by the Board, from wearing organization uniforms to school on days that the organization has a scheduled meeting.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, 18A:11-7, 18A:11-8, 18A:11-9

Approved Uniform Attire

The professional staff's primary goal is to educate students and prepare them to meet their life goals. This cannot be done effectively when inappropriate clothing creates a disruption to the educational process. Specific standards are decency, safety, good grooming, and non-interference with teaching and learning.

Standardized Dress Requirements

Students are to arrive at school wearing appropriate clothing as defined in the uniform dress code. Students may wear their PE uniform to school each day.

TOPS:

Any one or more of the following tops in school colors are approved for wear during the school day:

COLORS:

K-8
Gray
Lt. Blue

9-12
Navy Blue
Gold

1. Short-sleeved knit polo
2. Long-sleeved knit polo
3. Long sleeved fleece jacket with zipper front
4. Sweater (V-neck, crew neck, or cardigan)
5. Sweatshirt
6. Tee-shirts worn under the polo shirts are to be plain white or solid school colors.
7. Jackets and sweatshirts with hoods are permissible, however, hoods cannot be worn during the school day.

BOTTOMS:

PANTS OR SLACKS:

COLORS:

Khaki
Navy Blue

This policy allows for families to purchase pants or slacks from a store of your choice.

However, you must comply with the following:

1. Pants must be purchased in khaki or navy blue cotton or cotton/polyester. Elasticized or drawstring are acceptable.
2. That the pants may have a slight flare at the bottom to accommodate boots.
3. That the front is plain or pleated.
4. That the pants should not be skin-tight or overly loose at the waist or hips.
5. That the pants shall not be baggy, nor skin tight down the legs.
6. That the cut of the waist shall exist above the hips, as opposed to 'at the hips' or "below the waist."
7. That the length is standard pants length.

SKORTS/CAPRIS:

COLORS:

Khaki
Navy Blue

1. Skorts may be plain-front or pleated in a cotton or cotton/polyester and must be fingertip length.
2. Shorts worn under a skirt are not an acceptable alternative.

SKIRTS: Skirts are not permitted.

SHORTS:

COLORS:

Khaki

Navy Blue

Must be knee length

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: SWEATS OR SHORTS:

1. Can be gray or navy blue
2. Can be mesh or cotton
3. Must be knee length
4. Solid black leggings, of thick material, are permitted as part of the PE uniform.

SHIRTS:

1. Must be solid colors (white, gray, or navy blue).
2. Spirit or Falcon wear are permitted.

FOOTWEAR:

- Footwear must conform to the policy stated within the Student Handbook.

ACCESSORIES:

- Plain stockings or tights in neutral, white or navy blue are permissible.
- Socks must coordinate with the basic school colors, including white.
- Belts are not to be worn as an accessory separate from the pants. Belts must be worn through belt loops.
- Hats, visors, sweatbands, bandanas, or other headwear are not permitted unless approved for medical or religious reasons.
- Midriffs must be covered.
- Winter outerwear should not be worn in class.
- Sunglasses are not permitted unless prescribed for medical reasons.
- Shoes must be securely fastened to the feet. Flip-flops, slippers, or other backless footwear are not permitted
- Ornate or excessive jewelry is not permitted.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS:

1. Students will be sent to the office to call home for appropriate uniform attire.
2. Warning: A school staff member in authority may warn the student for his/her unacceptable conduct. Verbal and/or written warnings may be sent home.
3. Temporary Removal from Classroom: The classroom teacher may direct the student to report to the office of the administrator in charge of student discipline. The administrator will determine if any additional disciplinary steps are needed.
4. Deprivation of Privileges: The student may be deprived of the privilege of:
 - a. Moving freely about the school building,
 - b. Participation in co-curricular or inter/interscholastic activities,
 - c. Attendance at a school-related social or sports activity
 - d. Participation in a graduation ceremony, or
 - e. Transportation by school bus, or
 - f. Any other privilege the Building Principal or designee determines may be appropriate and consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1 et seq.
5. Detention: The student may be required to report during his/her lunch period, before or after the school day, or on a Friday afternoon, to detention for a period of supervised study. Transportation will be the responsibility of the student's parent (s) or legal guardian(s).
6. In-school Suspension: The student may be removed from his/her regular classes and required to report to an in-school suspension program for supervised study. In school-suspension will not be administered without the due process required by law.
7. Suspension from School: The student may be denied the right to attend school for a period of time pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7-2, and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-73. Suspension will not be administered without the due process required by law.
8. Expulsion: The Board may expel a student from school pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.5. Expulsion will not be imposed without the due process required by law.

EXEMPTIONS:

A parent(s)/legal guardian may request an exemption from wearing the school uniform by completing an Application for School Uniform Policy Exemption stating a bona fide religious objection.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS HAVE DISCRETION TO DETERMINE WHAT IS APPROPRIATE.

Adopted: January 13, 2016

Revised: April 6, 2022