

TITLE: STUDENT DRESS CODE**CODE: LBP 1**

The board of Brattleboro Union High School District #6 recognizes that students' mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of their personal style and individual preference. Our decisions regarding dress are based on the need to foster a climate conducive to a caring learning environment that nurtures personal growth and promotes safety, security, and positive attitudes. Paramount to this effort is the expectation that students dress appropriately for the school setting. Apparel that draws undue attention to the wearer can detract from the educational process and is therefore inappropriate. School is a work / learning environment; as such, acceptable standards of dress for a school setting will naturally differ from those standards associated with social attire. We believe adherence to this policy will contribute toward a positive, safe and healthy learning environment.

Accordingly, the BUHS District #6 Board shall authorize school regulations that prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

- Present a hazard to the health and safety of the student or to others in the school.
- Materially interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program.
- Cause excessive wear or damage to school property.
- Prevent students from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.
- Obscure or mask a student's identity.

Exceptions to the dress code may be made for certain school-approved events or programs.

General Rules:

Wearing appropriate apparel is considered the responsibility of the student and her/his parents or guardians with the following limitations. Students wearing clothing in violation of the dress code will be dealt with on an individual basis. School administration will determine if a student is in violation of the dress code.

Apparel:

Examples of prohibited dress are:

- Excessively revealing apparel, such as clothing that exposes or is transparent in private areas or exposes the torso while standing or sitting normally, and exposed undergarments.
- Decorations and/or designs, symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms that convey offensive, vulgar, profane, violent, gang-affiliated, sexually explicit, or sexually suggestive messages on any item or as part of any attire.
- Symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms advertising or promoting tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia.
- Symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms that profess violence or hatred.

Footwear

- To comply with health and safety standards, no student is allowed to attend school or school functions barefooted. All students must wear footwear.

Accessories

- Spiked clothing, including, but not limited to, dog collars, wristbands, chains, or belts containing metal studs that pose a safety concern for the students or others are prohibited.
- The wearing of hats and caps shall be prohibited at the middle school, and shall be determined by the individual teachers within the high school and career center classrooms.

Religious and Health Accommodation

Where a bona fide religious belief or health need of a student conflicts with the school dress code, reasonable accommodation shall be provided. Any student desiring accommodation shall notify the school principal in writing of the requested accommodation and the factual basis for the request. Coverings worn as part of a student's bona fide religious practices or beliefs shall not be prohibited under this policy.

Enforcement:

All students are expected to adhere to Brattleboro Union High School District #6 dress policy. Monitoring will be done by all administrators, faculty and staff. Consequences for students who do not comply with the dress policy shall be administered as determined by the principal/director, assistant principal/assistant director or designee using standard disciplinary guidelines as outlined in each school's parent/student handbook.

Date Warned: July 14, 2015
Date Adopted: August 17, 2015