

## Rule 17: Appearance and Dress Code

### School Board Policy – 4.25 Students Dress and Grooming

The Nemo Vista Board of Education recognizes that dress may be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, and unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.

Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female.

A student shall not be disciplined or discriminated against based upon the student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle. A student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle includes without limitation afros, dreadlocks, twists, locks, braids, cornrow braids, Bantu knots, curls, and hair styled to protect hair texture or for cultural significance.

The Superintendent shall establish student dress codes for the District's schools.

The primary responsibility for dress, grooming, and overall appearance of student rests with the parents of individual students and the students themselves.

#### General Rules:

1. Students may not wear clothing or hair styles which can be hazardous in their educational activities.
2. Caps, hats, and/or unusual headdress cannot be worn inside buildings or any place designated by the administration and school board as prohibited. **(High School ONLY: Hats maybe worn outside the buildings, at prom, in the gym at ballgames, if deemed appropriate. Hats may not be worn in buildings, graduation, homecoming, or any other formal event as determined by the principal.)**
3. Students in grades K-12 should not wear shirts which expose the midriff. Shirt sleeves should extend to shoulder (no spaghetti string tank tops), no mesh, cut-out sleeves or see-through tops.
4. No clothing with obscene language or rude or suggestive pictures will be worn.
5. Pajamas may not be worn except during designated dress-up days.
6. 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>: Tights and leggings must be worn with long tops (tunic) that covers to mid-thigh.
7. All students, K-12 may wear shorts to school.  
K-2: shorts must have an inseam of 3 inches. Skirts and dresses must be worn with shorts underneath. 3-12: Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be mid-thigh. Compression shorts may be worn to mid-thigh with outer covering when the outer covering is shorter than mid-thigh. No students will be allowed to wear clothing that is considered to be too revealing.
8. No sunglasses (excluding ballgames) unless prior approval is given by the administration.
9. No cosmetic contacts
10. No student shall have visible body piercing that can be hazardous or distracting to their or their peer's educational needs.
11. **GANG ATTIRE IS NOT PERMITTED ON CAMPUS.**

The wearing of gang attire at school or school functions by gang members or by other students who imitate them is disruptive and dangerous. This attire identifies students to rival elements and can result in challenges. No caps on campus unless permitted or required by staff or other personnel.

Therefore, clothing that can be identified as: "GANG ATTIRE" will not be permitted nor tolerated on campus.

- Hairnets shorts
- Bandanas • Any other clothing
- Caps worn in a specific matter that is identified as gang attire
- Sagging or low-riding pants or

10. Decisions concerning appearance, dress code, and grooming will be at the principal's discretion.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-10-137

A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c) (1)

A.C.A. § 6-18-5039(c)

Date Adopted: Oct. 2010

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