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Student Dress Policy *NEW*

August 1, 2019

Moraga School District believes:

- The responsibility for the dress of our students rests primarily with the student and their parents or guardians.
- Students need to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate.
- Student dress codes should support equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes of any kind.
- Student dress codes and their enforcement should not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, household income, gender identity, cultural observance, or body size.
- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal “distractions” without regulating individual students’ clothing/self expression.
- Teachers should focus on teaching without the additional and often uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

The MSD Dress Policy is designed to accomplish the following goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as science (eye or body protection) or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable.
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with images or language depicting or advocating violence or the use of alcohol or drugs.
- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.



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Dress Policy Basic Principles: These dress code principles shall apply to regular school days, as well as any school-related events and activities. Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, and breasts are fully covered with opaque fabric. All items listed in the “must wear” and “may wear” categories below must meet this basic principle. Students who feel they have been subject to discriminatory enforcement of the dress policy should contact the Administration.

A. Students must wear*, while following the basic principles of the section above:

- A shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms), and
- Pants and jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts), and
- Shoes

B. Students may wear:

- Hats and head coverings, including religious headwear
- Hoodie sweatshirts (as long as it doesn't obscure the face and ears in the classroom)
- Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants and “skinny jeans”
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear is covered and the Basic Principle is met
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps, and halter tops
- Athletic attire
- Clothing with commercial or athletic logos provided they do not violate the school's philosophy/values as stated above

C. Students cannot wear:

- Images or language depicting violence, drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity)
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or marginalized group
- Any clothing that reveals underwear
- Swimsuits
- Any item that obscures the face and ears, including hoodies in the classroom (except as a religious observance)



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Dress Policy Enforcement: To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below. School administration and staff shall not have discretion to vary the requirements in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement.

- Students will only be removed from spaces, hallways, or classrooms as a result of a dress code violation as outlined in Sections A and C in “Dress Policy ” above. Students in violation of Section A and C will be provided three (3) options to be dressed more to code during the school day:
 - Students will be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
 - Students will be provided with temporary school clothing to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
 - If necessary, students’ parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.
- No student should be affected by dress code enforcement because of racial identity, sex assigned at birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity.
- Students should not be shamed or required to display their body in front of others (students, parents, or staff) in school. “Shaming” includes, but is not limited to:
 - kneeling or bending over to check attire fit;
 - measuring straps or skirt length;
 - asking students to account for their attire in the classroom or in hallways about perceived dress code violations in front of others;
 - accusing students of “distracting” other students with their clothing.

*Courses that include attire as part of the curriculum may include assignment-specific dress, but should not focus on covering bodies in a particular way or promoting culturally-specific attire. Activity-specific shoe requirements are permitted (for example, athletic shoes for physical education).