

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Copy of Dress and Grooming
Code	221
Status	Second Reading
Adopted	January 24, 2019
Last Revised	January 26, 2007
Last Reviewed	January 22, 2021

Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

Authority

The Joint Operating Committee has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school. The Joint Operating Committee will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the school or constitute a health or safety hazard.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

The Joint Operating Committee may require students to wear standard dress or uniforms, which may be required school-wide or by individual programs. In times of a health or pandemic crisis, i.e. COVID-19, the Joint Operating Committee may require students to wear facial mask to support the safety and welfare of the school's population in accordance with the Joint Operating Committee's Health and Safety Plan. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education programs, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.[\[2\]](#)

Definitions

Mask - A mask means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A mask can be made of a variety of natural or synthetic fabrics, including cotton, silk or linen. For purposes of this policy, a mask can include a face shield that covers the nose and mouth. A mask may be factory - made, sewn by hand, or improvised from household items, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, t- shirts, sweatshirts or towels. No mask shall include an exhaust valve.

Exemption

Students may request an exemption from the mask-wearing rule for the following reasons:

1. Students who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition, including those with respiratory issues that impede breathing, mental health condition or disability;
2. Students who would be unable to remove a mask without assistance;
3. Students who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing-impaired or has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.

If a student wishes to request an exemption to the mask-wearing rule, the student and his/her parent must submit a "Mask/Face Covering Exemption Request" form to the building administrator.

Delegation of Responsibility

The building administrator or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Joint Operating Committee policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Director or designee shall ensure that all rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.[\[2\]](#)

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward safety, neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.[\[3\]](#)

Legal	1. 24 P.S. 1317.3
	2. 22 PA Code 12.11
	3. Pol. 325