

AGENDA

School District #145 - Waverly Public Schools

1. Policy 5051 - Student Dress
2. Policy 5066
3. Policy 5076
4. Policy 5077
5. 5074 - Questioning by Law Enforcement
6. Policies to review next

Dress

The major responsibility for personal dress and grooming habits rests with the parents and home of the individual child. Recognizing that cooperation between school and home is necessary, School District #145 accepts a responsibility to help students, as part of the educative process, develop values which contribute to good taste, cleanliness and decency in matters of dress and grooming. The school-accepted responsibility will be met through instruction and guidance rather than coercion. All professional staff shares in this responsibility.

Although our society is one in which acceptable standards of dress and grooming change rapidly, the following reasons create a need for school instruction and guidance on dress and grooming.

1. It is psychologically helpful for students to understand the necessity for regulations and to know what limitations exist.
2. Appearance or dress which distracts or interferes with the instructional environment cannot be permitted.
3. Abuses by a willful minority should not be permitted to affect the general image of youth or to discredit the school.
4. Behavior may be influenced by mode of dress; at least to the extent that certain dress is appropriate to a given activity.

Recommended Standards

Recommended standards upon which instruction and guidance will be based: While in school, students should be dressed and groomed in a manner which reflects that school is the "place of business" for youth. They should dress in keeping with moderate current style, but all dress should be neat, clean, decent, and in keeping with moral and health standards.

Students will be expected to dress in attire appropriate for school.

The administration shall decide whether deviations from the foregoing requirements are not in keeping with the standards of educational and moral aspects of the instructional program and are disruptive thereto.

Policy Adopted: 05/01/78
Policy Revised: 01/07/02

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Safety: School Property

School lockers are school property.

The board of education grants the administration the right to search school property such as lockers, tote trays, and desks.

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Search and Seizure

School district authorities may, without a search warrant, search students or protected student areas based on a reasonable and definable suspicion that a school district policy, rule, regulation or law has been violated.

The search shall be in a manner reasonable in scope to maintain order and discipline in the schools, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors to the school district facilities. School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search and turn it over to law enforcement authorities when necessary.

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Freedom of Speech

Provision for expression of difference of opinion as provided in the First Amendment shall be adequately provided and protected. Prohibition of a particular expression of opinion or means of expression shall be based upon something more than a mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompany an unpopular point of view.

However, no person – be he parent, teacher or student – has an absolute right to freedom of speech. It is a myth to say that any person has a constitutional right to say what he pleases, where he pleases, and when he pleases.

The primary liberties in a student's life have to do with the process of inquiry and learning, of acquiring and imparting knowledge, and of exchanging ideas. This process requires that students have the right to express opinions, to take stands, and to support causes, publicly or privately except where the practice materially and substantially interferes with school discipline. There should be no interference in the school with these liberties, or with the student's access to or expression of controversial points of view, except as provided below:

1. **Bulletin Boards** School authorities may restrict the use of bulletin boards to school announcements. Ample bulletin board space may be provided for the use of students and student organizations, including a reasonable area for notices relating to out-of-school activities or matters of general interest to students. The following general limitations on posting may be applied:
 - a. School authorities shall prohibit material which is obscene, which is libelous, or which inflames or incites students so as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on or of physical disruption to the orderly operation of the school.
 - b. Identification shall be required on any posted notice of the student or student group issuing same.
 - c. The school shall require that notices or other communications be officially dated before posting and that such material be removed after a prescribed reasonable time to assure full access to the bulletin boards.

2. **Distribution of Printed Material and Circulation of Petitions.** Students shall be free to distribute handbills, leaflets, and other printed material and to collect signatures on petitions concerning either school or out-of-school issues, whether such materials are produced within or outside the school. The following general limitations may be applied:
 - a. The time of such activity may be limited to periods before and after school, if such limitation is necessary to prevent interference with the school program.

- b. The place of such activity shall be reasonably restricted to permit the normal flow of traffic within the school and at exterior doors.
 - c. The manner of conducting such activity shall be restricted to prevent undue levels of noise, or to prevent the use of coercion in obtaining signatures on petitions. The danger of littering is not a sufficient ground for limiting the right of students to distribute printed material, however, students distributing material shall be responsible for litter, which may result from their activities.
 - d. The school shall require that all printed matter and petitions distributed or circulated on school property bear the name of the sponsoring organization or individual.
 - e. The school shall prohibit the distribution of material within the restricted categories of paragraph 1 (a) above.
3. **Buttons and Badges.** The wearing of buttons, badges, or armbands bearing slogans or sayings shall be permitted as another form of expression, unless the message thereof falls within the restricted categories of paragraph 1 (a) above. No teacher or administrator shall attempt to interfere with this practice on the grounds that the message may be unpopular with students or faculty.

In imposing limitations on student expression for any reason under any of the foregoing provisions, the school must ensure that its rules are applied on a non-discriminatory basis and in a manner designed to assure maximum freedom of expression to the students. The school shall particularly avoid any action placing restraints on ideas prior to their expression. Any student or student group deprived of freedom of expression under any of these provisions shall have the right to request a hearing before the board of education to determine whether such deprivation is justified under these rules. Such a hearing must be held as soon as possible after request. The hearing shall provide for a full and fair opportunity for both sides to present evidence and argument as to the propriety of the application of the regulation in question. In conducting such hearings, the school shall have the burden of justifying its action.

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