

Salem City Board of Education District Policy Manual

Students

Series 5000

School Uniforms

Policy 5132.1

Date Adopted: July 12, 2006

Date Revised: September 10, 2008, July 8, 2009, July 11, 2012

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The Salem City Board of Education firmly believes students who are safe and secure, who learn basic American values of discipline, hard work, study, responsibility, respect, and citizenship, are better students. The Board of Education firmly believes that a mandatory school uniform policy will enhance the school learning environment.

The Board of Education also believes that mandatory school uniforms:

1. Instill students with discipline, and create a positive atmosphere conducive to learning;
2. Help parents and students resist peer pressure;
3. Help students concentrate on their school work;
4. Promote a statement of identify, and improve security;
5. Create a sense of school unity, and enhance school spirit;
6. Help to assist families with the economic burden of clothing their children since uniforms are less costly than non-uniform clothing;
7. Enhance the school's image in the community.
8. Assist students in preparing for the world of work.

The Salem City Board of Education has adopted this mandatory school uniform policy for all students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve.

The general requirements of the mandatory school uniform for all students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve, commencing with the effective date of this policy, will be as follows:

1. All students will be required to wear a solid royal blue or white collared button front, polo shirt, sport shirt or blouse.
2. All students will be required to wear non-cargo, tan khaki or navy blue bottoms (pants, shorts, skirts skorts, capris, or jumpers).
3. Logos, insignias, or other symbols of any kind other than those portraying the official Salem City Schools logo are prohibited on all clothing items.
4. All students may wear sweatshirts, sweaters, or sweater vests over a shirt or blouse as described in #1 above and that are solid royal blue or white and must be free of a hood ("hoodies" are specifically prohibited) or pockets.
5. All students may wear boots during inclement weather days: (rain, snow, sleet, or when there is precipitation on the ground).
6. All students may wear shorts any time of the year.

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Implementation and Compliance Date

Colors permitted by previous versions of this policy will be permitted to be worn by students until the end of the last day of the 2009-2010 school year. All student shall be expected to comply with all provisions of this policy beginning with the first day of the 2010-2011 school year.

At all levels, classroom teachers will be responsible for monitoring student appearance to identify those who attempt to modify their clothing during the day.

The specific requirements of the mandatory school uniform for all students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve, commencing with the effective date of this policy, will be as follows:

Male Students

All male students are required to wear tan khaki or navy blue pants or shorts of the appropriate size. All shorts shall not be more than 2 inches above the knee.

All male students are required to wear their pants or shorts belted properly at the waist. Pants with elastic at the waist that do not require a belt may also be worn.

All pants or shorts are to be free of cargo pockets, slits, holes, tears, and cuts.

All male students are required to wear a solid royal blue or white collared button front, polo shirt, sport shirt or blouse of the appropriate size.

All male students have the option of wearing a solid royal blue or white long sleeve mock turtleneck or turtleneck of the appropriate size.

All male students are required to tuck in their shirt into their pants or shorts.

All male students may wear solid royal blue or white sweatshirts, sweaters or sweater vests over a shirt or blouse as described above and that are solid royal blue or white and must be free of a hood ("hoodies" are specifically prohibited) or pockets..

All shirts or sweat shirts are required to be free of slits, holes, tears and cuts.

Logos / Insignias

Logos, insignias, or other symbols of any kind other than those portraying the official Salem City Schools logo are prohibited on all clothing items.

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Foot Apparel

All male students are required to wear platform-free casual shoes, dress shoes, or sneakers. Sneakers are to be predominantly white or black.

All male students have the option of wearing boots during inclement weather days: (rain, snow, sleet, or when there is precipitation on the ground).

Female Students

All female students are required to wear tan khaki or navy blue jumpers, skirts, shorts, pants, or skorts of the appropriate size. All skirts, shorts, jumpers and shorts shall not be more than 2 inches above the knee.

All female students are required to wear their skirts, shorts, pants or skorts properly at waist.

All skirts, shorts, pants or skorts are required to be free of cargo pockets, slits, holes, tears, and cuts.

All female students are required to wear a solid royal blue or white collared button front, polo shirt, sport shirt or blouse of the appropriate size.

All female students have the option of wearing a solid royal blue or white long sleeve mock turtleneck or turtleneck of the appropriate size.

All female students are required to tuck their shirts into their skirts, shorts, pants or skorts.

All female students may wear solid royal blue or white sweatshirts, sweaters, or sweater vests over a shirt or blouse as described above and that are solid royal blue or white and must be free of a hood (“hoodies” are specifically prohibited) or pockets.

All shirts or sweatshirts are required to be free of slits, holes, tears, and cuts.

Logos / Insignias

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Foot Apparel

All female students are required to wear platform-free casual shoes, dress shoes, or sneakers. Heel height will be required to be no more than two inches and sneakers will be required to be predominantly white or black.

All female students have the option of wearing boots during inclement weather days: (rain, snow, sleet, or when there is precipitation on the ground).

Gym Clothes – Male & Female Students

Student Choice of Solid Navy Blue, or Grey Shorts or Pants & Solid Navy Blue, or Grey Shirts

All students have the option of wearing a solid royal blue or white t-shirt, sweatshirt (without a hood – “hoodies are specifically prohibited), and/or sweatpants of the appropriate size on their scheduled gym day.

All students are required to wear their shorts or pants properly at the waist.

All students are required to tuck their shirts into their pants or shorts.

All gym clothes will be required to be free of cargo pockets, hoods, slits, holes, tears, and cuts.

Logos / Insignias

Logos, insignias, or other symbols of any kind other than those portraying the official Salem City Schools logo are prohibited on all clothing items.

Administrative Clause

The administration reserves the right to permit variations to the mandatory school uniform for specifically organized learning activities.

The administration reserves the right to temporarily suspend the mandatory school uniform for special theme days and/or special activities.

The administration reserves the right to amend the mandatory school uniform policy.

The administration reserves the right to restrict any item of clothing.

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Enforcement

When a student in grades pre-kindergarten - 6 is found to be out of uniform, a letter will be sent home to the parent asking that the student be properly dressed in the future. Repeated infractions will lead to a parent conference.

When a student in grades 7-12 is found to be out of uniform the parent will be called about the violation and asked to bring appropriate clothing to the school for the child. If parents or guardians are not available, the violators will be removed from the class for the day and placed in in-school suspension.

To handle the enforcement work, a part-time dress code clerk will be assigned by each Principal to process uniform violations. The clerk will be responsible for contacting parents, maintaining a violation database, and notifying teachers of students' unexcused absences.

Students with Financial Need

Students with limited financial means and who receive free or reduced price lunches may be provided with a district supplied school uniform at the discretion of the Building Principal.

To keep parents aware, a uniform policy brochure will be created then updated annually. The brochure will be mailed district-wide prior to the start of each school year.

Legal References

- NJSA 18A:11-1 General Mandatory Powers and Duties
- 18A:11-7 Findings relative to school dress codes
- 18A:11-8 Adoption of dress code policy for school permitted
- 18A:11-9 Prohibition of gang-related apparel
- 18A:37-1 Submission of pupils to authority

Possible Cross References

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