



Clinton Central School District Policy Committee Cover Page

Policy Number: 5300.25

Policy Title: Student Dress Code

Background and Rationale for Change: Item number five in the current policy indicates that the policy does not allow the wearing of hats in classrooms, which would include each of our three schools. While this practice continues in the elementary and middle schools (prohibited in elementary classrooms, and prohibited in middle school in total), the high school practice has changed to allow hats to be worn. Discussion at the high school leadership team level approximately two years ago resulted in a consensus that would allow hats to be worn in classrooms in the high school. The policy was never changed to represent this consensus.

In addition to changing the wording in number 5 regarding hats, we have added the word "reference" to number seven related to reference the "use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities."

Below are the recommended changes with additions in bold underline:

5300.25 STUDENT DRESS CODE

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other District personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up, and nails, shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and/or back) and see-through garments are not appropriate.
3. Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.

4. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed.
5. Not include the wearing of hats in the **middle school during the school day, and not include the wearing of hats in the elementary school classroom during the school day**, except for a medical or religious purpose.
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous, or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Not promote, **reference**, and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.

Each Building Principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item, and if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out of school suspension. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall be construed so as to prevent school spirit days sanctioned by the building principal.

Recommended Action: Adopt the recommended policy as indicated with a first reading on October 29, 2019 and a second reading on November 19, 2019.
