

STANDARD DRESS CODE

(Revised 8/13/09)

The North Schuylkill Board of Education recognizes every student's right to freedom of expression in speech, written or oral, as that right is guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the United States Supreme Court.

The Board also recognizes its obligation to provide schools where the health, safety and welfare of the students who attend our schools are given paramount consideration and where a positive learning environment must be maintained.

The Board is aware of its obligation to make every effort to minimize the opportunities for student disruption and/or distraction in the school.

The Board believes that a standard dress code policy will address the issues related to the health, safety and welfare of the students attending its schools and will further aid in the maintenance of a positive learning environment.

The North Schuylkill School District, by authority granted to it under the law, hereby immediately imposes a standard dress code policy for grades K-12 for the 2009-2010 school term and all upcoming terms during instructional hours and during any school-day related activities (i.e. field trips).

However, during instructional hours and at any school-sponsored event, on or off school property, no student shall wear any apparel or jewelry that by words, signs, pictures or combination thereof appearing on said clothing or jewelry advocates or promotes gang activity, sexual activity, violence, or the use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs, or demeans or degrades another because of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, handicap or disability.

Upon enrollment in the North Schuylkill School District, new students will be granted a grace period of one (1) week before requiring to conform to the dress policy.

Prescribed Dress Code

The Board of Education is cognizant of the diversity of the students within the school district and that certain students may have a religious preference or medical condition which precludes the adherence to the standard dress code policy.

The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may fill out the appropriate waiver form and submit all other documentation reasonably requested by the Board of Education to establish their objection. Any parent/guardian whose children may suffer as a result of economic hardship may also submit the appropriate form and documentation, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent or designee.

Any exception granted for economic hardship will apply only to the current school year. If an exception for a subsequent year is requested from a parent/guardian whose child was enrolled at the conclusion of the previous year, the applications for exemption must be submitted to the Superintendent or designee prior to August 1. This procedure shall ensure a decision on the application prior to the beginning of the first student day of school.

Penalties

Any student who violates the school standard dress code policy shall be subject to the following:

FIRST OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that day until attire is provided by the parent/guardian.

SECOND OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that day until attire is provided by the parent/guardian. One after-school detention assigned.

THIRD OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that day until attire is provided by the parent/guardian. Two after-school detentions assigned.

FOURTH OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that day until attire is provided by the parent/guardian. Saturday detention assigned.

FIFTH OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that entire day. Extended in-school suspension assigned; day of infraction counts as first day of in-school suspension.

SIXTH OFFENSE: Notify parent/guardian to bring in appropriate clothing. Student will remain in the In-School Suspension Room that entire day. Extended in-school suspension assigned; day of infraction counts as first day of in-school suspension.

ADDITIONAL OFFENSES: Penalties to be determined by the building principal. Penalties outlined above reflect the typical progression for dress code violations. However, when severe infractions of the dress code occur, or when the student has already received discipline for prior conduct infractions, there is no established progression of disciplinary steps that need to be followed. In addition, the Elementary Administration is authorized to alter penalties to effectively respond to individual cases beyond the fourth infraction.

THE ADMINISTRATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECIDE ANY CASE IN QUESTION. ALSO, AS UNUSUAL OR NEW CASES ARISE, CASES WHICH THIS DRESS CODE DID NOT ANTICIPATE OR CASES REQUIRING THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DRESS CODE, THE BUILDING ADMINISTRATION WILL DECIDE WHETHER A DRESS CODE VIOLATION HAS OCCURRED.

Standard Dress Code

The students at North Schuylkill School District are required to be dressed according to the standard dress code policy while in school or at school-directed activities during instructional time. This may be a combination of the following options:

1—Shirts will be a collared long or short sleeve golf/polo shirt, a button-down dress shirt, or a turtleneck/mock turtleneck, with or without school logo. All button-down shirts must be buttoned to the base of the neck. A sweatshirt, fleece, vest, or sweater without hoods or pockets is permissible, with or without the school logo. All shirts will be solid colored or striped.

Vests, sweaters or blazers can be worn over the approved shirt, with or without the school logo. LOGO: Spartan Head with North Schuylkill insignia including any North Schuylkill sponsored activity. (Ex: North Schuylkill Baseball, Spartan Band, N.S. Student Council, North Schuylkill Elementary, etc.) No other letter or insignia will be permitted.

2—Dress or casual slacks will be in solid navy, black, brown, gray or khaki. Capri pants or dress/casual shorts no more than three (3) inches above the knee in solid navy, black, brown, gray or khaki are permitted.

3—Students will be permitted to wear skirts and jumpers that are knee-length or longer in solid navy, black, brown, gray or khaki. Dresses are permitted that meet the dress code policy guidelines for tops, including solid colors/stripes, collars, sleeves, buttons, logos, sizing, etc. Dresses are permitted that are knee-length or longer.

4—Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Shoes, sneakers, boots or dress sandals in predominantly white, blue, black, cordovan, or brown are permitted.

5—For physical education classes in grades K-12, sweatpants, shorts, athletic pants and appropriate sleeved T-shirts, with or without Spartan/North Schuylkill logo, will be permitted.

No other writing/insignias will be permitted on shirts.

K-6 may wear physical education attire on designated physical education days.

Elementary students are permitted to wear shorts to school from day one of the school year until the calendar change to Standard Time. Students may resume wearing shorts at the calendar change back to Daylight Savings Time.

In any co-ed swimming class, all students will need to wear a t-shirt over their bathing suits until entering the pool.

6—Students may carry purses during the school day. Purses may not exceed 5" X 7" in size.

Any manner of attire, appearance, or grooming which causes interferences with the learning process or creates classroom or school disorder shall be subject to disciplinary action according to the penalties set forth. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1—Tank tops, sleeveless tops, shells, mesh tops, bare midriffs, sweatshirts/fleece with hoods or pockets or any other garments that expose the upper torso will not be permitted. Shirts shall not be see-through; any type of garment or clothing accessory worn underneath will not be visible through the shirt. Camisoles may not be visible. All shirts must have sleeves that cover the shoulders. Shirts should fit comfortably and should be no more than one (1) size larger than needed or extend no more than four inches (4") below the waist. Any shirt worn under the approved standard dress shirt may not be visible below the hemline.

2—Garments worn so as to expose underwear will be in defiance of the dress code. Cargo or baggy-style pants are not permitted. Pants must be worn at the waist and fit comfortably. Excessively tight or baggy pants will not be permitted. Pants must be of appropriate length as to not drag on the floor. Mesh shorts are only permitted for physical education class.

3—Denim of any color is not permitted.

4—Pajamas or flannel pants are not permitted.

5—Flip flops, shoes with wheels, bedroom slippers, and shoes with heels in excess of two inches are not permitted.

6—Hats, handkerchiefs, scarves, bandanas, headbands across the foreheads, arm bands, chains, pins, safety pins, or sunglasses are not permitted.

7—Clothing should be clean and free from tears, holes, and fraying.

8—Outerwear, including vests and coats, or gloves with or without fingers are not permitted to be worn during the day.

9—Offensive tattoos must be covered.

10—Accessories/apparel/ties deemed to be distracting, disruptive, offensive in nature, or deemed to pose a danger to the safety and welfare of the student or to the other students or staff are not permitted.

11—Spartan Spirit Days, which shall be designated by the building principals, will allow students to have the option to wear any Spartan/North Schuylkill short or long-sleeve t-shirt or Spartan/North Schuylkill team uniform shirt with appropriate school standard dress pants/capris/shorts.

If the uniform shirt is sleeveless, a shirt must be worn underneath.

Principals will use their discretion on any individual issues regarding the standard dress code including the designation of specific school spirit days that permit students to wear other types of clothing; all principals' decisions are final.

The administration of the North Schuylkill School District reserves the right to amend the dress code for clothing styles that become trends which are associated with anti-social behavior or have a disruptive influence. In addition, the school principal shall have the right to make short-term, specific exceptions for a student experiencing a unique situation that is not hazardous, disruptive or offensive.

Additions for High School Only

Book Bag/Gym Bag Policy

Beginning 2009-2010, students will be permitted to carry only clear and/or mesh book bags and/or gym bags throughout the day. Regular book bags and gym bags must be kept in the student's lockers throughout the day.

Accessories/Jewelry Worn in Piercings Policy

Beginning 2009-2010, accessories/jewelry worn in piercings may be worn only in the ears. Accessories/jewelry worn in facial piercings must be removed. Clear plastic spacers may be placed in piercings. Students in violation of this policy will face disciplinary action.

9—Offensive tattoos must be covered.