

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS UNIFORM DRESS CODE

WHEREAS, Home and School Associations and the majority of parents and staff surveyed wish to propose to the William Penn School District Board of Directors a mandatory school uniform policy to adopt for all students in grades kindergarten through sixth; and

WHEREAS, the associations firmly believe young people who are safe and secure, who learn basic American values and the essentials of good citizenship, are better students; and

WHEREAS, many parents, teachers, and school officials have come to see school uniforms as one positive and creative way to reduce discipline problems, prevent future discipline problems from occurring, and increase school safety; and

WHEREAS, it has been observed that the adoption of a mandatory school uniform policy can promote school safety, improve discipline, and enhance the learning environment; and

WHEREAS, the William Penn School District Board of Directors strongly believes that the following issues would support such a uniform policy:

1. Uniforms would create security through identification, enabling school officials to recognize intruders.
2. A more positive atmosphere conducive to education will be established.
3. Similar clothing will eliminate peer pressure dealing with student attire.
4. Uniforms would promote a statement of identity.
5. A sense of school unity will be created.
6. Students will be instilled with discipline.
7. School spirit will be enhanced.
8. Uniforms will help assist families with the economic burden of clothing school age children since uniforms are less costly than most clothing.

AND, WHEREAS, The actual school uniform for students in grades kindergarten through six, commencing with the first day of classes of the 2009-2010 school year, shall be as follows:

MALE STUDENTS

Solid colored Navy Blue or Tan uniform or dress slacks or shorts of the appropriate size for the student. Shorts should be at the knee or no more than one inch (approximately) above the knees. No baggy or cargo-type pants will be permitted.

Solid colored dark or light Blue or White shirt with collar, either short or long sleeve. In cold weather, a solid colored pullover, vest, or cardigan sweater may also be worn. No logos on shirts. No sweatshirts, fleece, or hoodies will be permitted. Each elementary school may choose **one** additional optional color for the purpose of promoting school spirit and unity. This optional color shirt will be acceptable but not required attire.

Enclosed shoes, boots, or black sneakers will be permitted. Socks must be worn. All laces must be tied.

FEMALE STUDENTS

Solid colored Navy Blue or Tan uniform pants, jumper, shorts, skorts, or skirt of the appropriate size for the student. Skirts, shorts, skorts, and jumpers should not be more than one inch (approximately) above the knees. No baggy or cargo-type pants will be permitted.

Solid colored dark or light Blue or White shirt, or blouse, either long or short sleeve. In cold weather, a solid button-down sweater, pullover sweater, vest, or a cardigan sweater may also be worn. No logos on shirts or tops. No sweatshirts, fleece, or hoodies will be permitted. Each elementary school may choose **one** additional optional color for the purpose of promoting school spirit and unity. This optional color shirt will be acceptable but not required attire.

Enclosed shoes, flat boots, or black sneakers will be permitted. Students must wear solid colored socks, tights, or stockings. All laces must be tied.

AND WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that certain parents who, for religious or other reasons, may choose to have their child not dress in a school uniform and shall have the opportunity to meet with the school principal and discuss their concerns and provide specific reasons for their child not to participate and sign a waiver allowing their child to opt out of the requirement to wear the school uniform, but adhere to a specific dress code as established by the principal; and

WHEREAS, legislative authority to provide for a school uniform policy has been provided through Act 46 of 1998; and

WHEREAS, a used school uniform exchange program will be established at William Penn School District elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, The William Penn School District Board of Education makes known the sanctions that will be rendered upon those students who refuse to conform to this policy requiring school uniforms.

The sanctions are as detailed on page 60 of this Student Code of Conduct.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the William Penn School District Board of Directors does hereby formally propose the aforementioned policy requiring all students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade to wear the prescribed school uniform, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. Furthermore, it is not the intention of the School Board or other groups to infringe upon the rights of any individual, but rather to provide a safe environment for all students to receive the education they so rightfully deserve.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS UNIFORM POLICY VIOLATIONS

The William Penn School District Board of Directors has adopted the uniform policy requiring all students in grades kindergarten through six to wear the prescribed school uniform, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. Furthermore, it is not the intention of the School Board or other groups to infringe upon the rights of any individual, but rather to provide a safe environment for all students to receive the education they so rightfully deserve.

The William Penn School District Board of Education has adopted sanctions that will be rendered upon those students who refuse to conform to this policy requiring school uniforms. The sanctions are as follows:

First Violation

Required

1. Student / Principal Conference
2. Parent notified by letter
3. Student required to change into appropriate clothes

Optional

1. Parental Conference Request

Subsequent Violations

Required

1. Student / Principal Conference
2. Parent notified by letter
3. Loss of Recess for 1 day

Optional

1. Parental Conference Request
2. Loss of Recess for up to 5 days