File: J19

PERSONAL APPEARANCE POLICY

In accordance with Massachusetts state law students are expected to dress and groom in a manner that conforms to reasonable standards of health, safety, and cleanliness and that will not cause disruption of the educational process. Dress or appearance that is unclean, constitutes a threat to the health or safety of students or is disruptive of the educational process will not be permitted. Therefore, students are expected to meet the following standards:

Feet must be covered (shod) at all times, meaning no bare feet, and no flip flops/beach/shower style sandals or slippers allowed. Clothes must be clean, in good repair, and not disruptive. Chains (wallet, belt, large neck chains, etc.) and spiked accessories (collars, belts, bracelets) are not permitted. Hats, headbands, bandanas and any other head covering are not permitted to be worn during school, (except for religious reasons) and for designated approved and authorized school activities.

Students may not wear clothing or accessories that:

- have slogans, comments or designs that are obscene, lewd, or vulgar;
- are directed towards or intended to harm, harass, threaten, intimidate, or demean others because of gender, gender identity, color, race, religion, disability, genetic information, ethnicity, sex, national origin, or sexual orientation; and/or
- promote alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, gang activity, illegal drugs, guns, or weapons.

Clothing will be deemed inappropriate if it:

- exposes midriffs or backs (short tops)
- is shorter than mid-thigh (shorts or skirts)
- is overly revealing (low cut or see-through tops, spaghetti straps, tube tops, tank tops for boys and girls, etc.)
- is intended to serve as an undergarment
- reveals undergarments (low slung pants); pants must be worn at the waist and be able to stay up without the use of a belt; and belts must be the correct length
- is sunglasses/shades worn in the school building without permission from the administration

Students whose dress or appearance is not suitable for school will be asked to change their dress or appearance. Other disciplinary consequences may be imposed in accordance with the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for repeated failure to meet these standards.

1st Reading: Reg SC Mtg 8/7/2013

2nd Reading: Reg SC Mtg 9/4/2013