

The purpose of dress regulations is to help each student set a standard for his/her personal appearance that is appropriate within the accepted standards of Golden Valley Unified School District. All Golden Valley students are expected to demonstrate pride in their personal appearance because it reflects individually on them and collectively on the school they attend. Daily attire need not be expensive to be attractive and entirely acceptable. All apparel must comply with GVUSD Dress Code. The dress code shall be in effect at all school-related activities both on and off campus, including, but not limited to, activities such as dances, award ceremonies, field trips, and athletic events.

The Governing Board recognizes that students' mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of their personal style and individual preference. The board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding appearance except when choices affect the educational program of the schools. It is recognized that any apparel that draws **undue attention to the wearer** creates a safety concern or detracts from the education process and is not acceptable. Good taste and good grooming are a part of learning for both boys and girls. It is a mark of maturity when students can freely choose apparel that demonstrates individuality without deviating from the standard of appropriateness.

The Board shall authorize school regulations that prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

1. Present a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself or others in the school.
2. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property.
3. Prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or hearing or restricted movement.
4. Clothing or styles used by some students to identify groups or gangs whose purpose is to intimidate or harass.
5. Distract from or otherwise impede the learning process because of their extreme style (e.g. piercing, unnatural hair color, mohawks) or attire that is too revealing.

Each school site, in concurrence with the school site council, may develop additional guidelines stricter than the district's minimum Dress Code Policy and these regulations. These local rules shall not permit items prohibited herein. Schools are responsible for notifying the students and parents/guardians in a timely manner of their supplemental Dress Code Policy.

### **Exemption to Policy**

Religious beliefs, when verified, may be grounds for an exemption to a specific portion of the Dress Code Policy. A petition for an exemption from enforcement of a specified portion of the Dress Code Policy may be submitted to the Office of Student Services.

**DRESS CODE**

The Golden Valley Unified School District Governing Board has adopted the following Dress Code policies. These policies ensure a safe school setting conducive to a positive learning environment.

**Shorts/Skirts**

1. Shorts, dresses, skorts, and skirts are to be worn no shorter than the extended middle finger tip length, straight arm to the side, of the individual student. They must be hemmed and not be form fitting.
2. Bike shorts (spandex), unhemmed frayed shorts, or shorts with torn and/or revealing holes are unacceptable.
3. GVUSD approved gym shorts may only be worn for physical education activities and athletic practices.

**Baggy and Tight Clothing**

1. Excessively baggy or oversized pants or shorts are not allowed. Oversized clothing that presents a safety concern is not acceptable.
2. Pants when measured at the middle of the kneecap of the straightened leg **cannot exceed 5 inches horizontally**. Pants must fit and be worn at the **natural waist** and not exceed the student's measured size by more than two sizes. The bottom of the pant leg may not be frayed or drag on the ground. Pants must be hemmed and not stapled, pinned, taped, or rubber banded.
- ~~3. Pants may not be excessively form fitting and may never be worn so as to expose undergarments or are a type of undergarment (i.e., leggings).~~
3. Pants may not be excessively form fitting or a type of undergarment (ie. leggings) and may not be worn so as to expose undergarments.

**Gang-Related Apparel**

1. Any clothing or apparel that a student or group of students wear to identify themselves for the purpose of harassing, threatening, or intimidating others will not be allowed.
2. Gang-related apparel is not acceptable. If individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 35294.1)
3. Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each year and updated whenever related information is received.

4. Principals or designated administrators will collaborate with Law Enforcement Agencies to update changes in gang-related apparel at the beginning of each year or as often as needed.

### **Clothing With Writing, Symbols, Pictures and Insignia**

Articles of clothing, jewelry or personal effects (backpacks, binders, fanny packs, gym bags, buttons, water bottles etc.) are not allowed if those items contain writing, symbols, pictures or insignia that:

1. Display gang-related symbols;
2. Use profanity;
3. Display products or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex or weapons;
4. Substantially disrupt the educational process;
5. Are obscene, libelous or slanderous;
6. Create a clear and present danger of commission of unlawful acts, violation of school regulations, or injury to students, staff or community;
7. Violate state hate-crime laws.

### **Shoes/Sandals/Boots**

1. All students must wear shoes. **Shoes that are considered to be slippers are not allowed at any grade level.** Students in grades K-6 will not be allowed to wear shoes that are considered to be slippers, thongs, zories, flip-flops, slides, or beachwear. All students in Grades K-6 must wear shoes with backstraps or heel straps.
2. All students are required to wear athletic shoes for physical education. Students in grades 7-12 will be required to wear closed toe shoes in labs and shop classes for safety purposes.
3. No hard-toed or steel-toed shoes/boots will be allowed. No combat, or military style boots will be allowed (with the exception made for students enrolled in the California Cadet Corps program).

### **Grooming**

1. Hair which causes undue attention is not acceptable; i.e., unusual designs, colors, symbols, messages, mohawks, or "tails," or unusual razor cuts. Hair must be of a natural hair color in appearance. No unnatural hair extensions and hair pieces (i.e., feathers, shining pieces). Complete razor shaving of the head is not allowed. Partial razor shaving of the head may only be one inch (1") above the top of the ear.
2. Bangs or hairstyles must not obstruct nor interfere with vision of the student, or the ability of school officials to see both eyes of the individual.

### **Jewelry**

1. Body piercing or studded/spiked jewelry are not allowed except for pierced earrings worn in the ears only. Open gauges or other piercings that protrude from the ear and present a

safety hazard to the student are not allowed. Jewelry that is deemed to present a safety hazard is not allowed.

### **Shirts/Tops**

1. Undershirts, tube tops or halter tops are not appropriate or acceptable. Undergarments must not be exposed.
2. Any apparel determined to be too revealing is not allowed. This includes shirts that are see-through, reveal bare midriffs or bare the lower back and/or upper back region (i.e., racerbacks or lace). Clothing that exposes cleavage is prohibited. Sleeveless shirts are not appropriate attire for male students.
3. “Spaghetti Strap” tops worn by females are not allowed.
4. Dresses or tops with straps less than **one inch** in width will not be allowed.

### **All Students:**

1. Only school approved hats sold at the Student Store or provided by a school sanctioned club, team, or activity may be worn. Hats may not be altered or modified and must be worn forward. Only school approved hats shall be worn or visible at any time on campus or at any school event. (The term school is used to identify any school in the District.)
2. No head coverings are to be worn indoors, except for school sponsored athletic events.
3. Attire which may be used as a weapon may not be worn such as chains (e.g. wallet chains), items with spikes or studs (e.g. belts). Dog chains or collars are not permitted.
4. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times.
5. Any apparel determined to be too revealing or draw undue attention to itself (i.e. lettering on the backside of the pants) in style, fabric, or length is not acceptable. Pajamas are not to be worn at any time.
6. Bandannas or bandanna-patterned articles may not be worn, carried, or displayed.

**Note: All clothing must be worn to the fullest function of the garment. Any clothing or tattoo which displays gang symbols, profanity or products and slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex, violence, suicide, racism, or interferes with school work, creates disorder or disrupts the educational process is not allowed. Baggy or sagging clothing will not be allowed.**

The dress code shall be in effect at all school-related activities both on and off campus, including activities such as dances, award ceremonies, athletic events, and field trips.

**Exceptions to the dress code may be made for special days or special events as approved by the administration.**

To comply with health and safety standards, no student is allowed to attend school or school functions barefooted. Frayed, torn, or garishly patched clothing is not appropriate. **Extreme**

**fashions or appearances that are considered distracting to the educational process will not be allowed.**

Part of career planning is learning to dress appropriately for the job or for certain occasions. We realize that fashion dictates changes, but as with most things new, certain guidelines and limitations have to be set which are in the best interest of all students. The attitude of students is usually affected by what they wear, and what they wear affects the attitudes of those who see them.

**According to California State Education Code 35183, the final decision of whether the student's appearance is acceptable, or not, is up to the school and its Governing Board.**

The Dress Code will be reviewed annually in May by a committee of students, faculty, parents and administration, with a revised version being resubmitted to the Governing Board for use during the next school year.

#### **DRESS CODE DISCIPLINE POLICY**

Students who are considered out of dress code are referred to the office. An administrator makes a determination whether or not the student is out of dress code. If the administrator determines that the student does not meet dress code regulations, the student may be temporarily removed from classes until dress code regulations are met. Repeat offenders will face disciplinary action which may include a referral, parent contact, detention, suspension, placement on a behavior contract, or transfer.

(5/85 3/87 3/90) (10/98) (6/02) (7/05) (6/06)

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