



## SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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### **F28 EXHIBIT: DRESS CODE**

*(Excerpt from current Parent/Student Handbook)*

#### In General

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instills discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others.

#### School Uniforms

The Board has determined that the use of school uniforms will improve the learning environment at the District and has adopted the use of student uniforms as specified in the rules. Uniforms are defined in this policy as one or more specific kinds of articles of clothing, not commonly available at a variety of retail outlets that are required to be worn by students during normal school hours or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities on or off school property.

Uniforms made up of khaki shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, and trousers and white long- and short-sleeved blouses and shirts with collars shall be worn by all students enrolled in each SAISD school. In addition, an alternate shirt/blouse that conforms to the uniform standards may be selected by each school.

#### Uniform Specifications

- Khaki pants (including Capri/cropped pants), shorts, skirts and jumpers must fit well and not be oversized or undersized. Pants and shorts must fit at the waist and must not "sag."
- Uniform pants must be straight-legged, and pockets must be the standard front pockets. No "baggies" or loose-fit pants are permitted. Cargo pants (with pockets on the side of the leg), overalls, bell-bottom, or wide-leg styles are not uniform pants and are not permitted.
- Shorts, skirts and skorts must be no shorter than three inches above the knee. *For enforcement purposes, pockets on shorts, skirts, or skorts must also be standard front pockets; no "cargo" styles are permitted. Also, to be considered shorts rather than pants, the length cannot extend below the knee.*
- No manufacturers' logos or brand names may be visible. If visible when purchased, they must be removed.
- No visible drawstrings on pants (including Capri/cropped pants), shorts, or skorts.
- All clothing must be hemmed. No cut-offs or rolled-up cuffs. Cuffs must be tailored and tacked/sewn at the seams.
- Shirts must fit well and not be oversized or undersized. Shirts must have collars, and may be polo-style or dress-style.
- All shirts must be tucked in, except for those with a wide (approximately three-inch) band at the bottom that are meant to be worn out.

**Students wearing uniforms and uniform components must also conform to the other dress code requirements stated below.**

#### Dress Code

1. Skirts, dresses, jumpers, shorts and skorts must be no shorter than three inches above the knee.
2. Appropriate footwear must be worn; footwear which has toes reinforced with steel, hard plastics or similar materials is specifically prohibited, as are thongs, beach sandals or other open-toed shoes that do not have straps to secure them.
3. Unconventional colors or hairstyles (e.g., Mohawks, spiked hair or designs) causing distractions are not permitted.
4. Headwear shall not be worn in buildings. *For enforcement purposes, headwear worn as legitimate religious attire may be considered as an exception following a conference with the principal.*

5. Any clothes that are suggestive or indecent or which cause distraction are prohibited. Specifically, tank tops, muscle shirts, halter-tops, spaghetti straps, exposed backs or midriffs, and see-through garments without a shell or shirt worn under the garments are prohibited.
6. Indecent/inappropriate patches, writings, or drawings on clothing or body are prohibited. Clothing with inappropriate advertising or statements that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, obscene or inflammatory (e.g., alcoholic beverages, sex, tobacco, drugs, gangs, etc.) are also prohibited.
7. Oversized clothing shall not be worn to school. Specifically, "bagging" or "sagging" pants are prohibited. All pants are to be worn at the waist. Tight-fitting pants (e.g., tights, bicycle pants, Spandex) are also prohibited. Extra-long belts are prohibited. Belts must be put through the belt loops on the pants.
8. All shirts, including any type of jersey, must be tucked in at all times. Sweatshirts, sweaters, shirts or blouses designed to be worn out are the only exceptions.
9. Dangling key rings and chains will not be permitted. This includes chains attached to wallets, footwear and backpacks.
10. Visible body piercing jewelry is prohibited, except for ear piercing.
11. No gang-related attire will be permitted. This will be designated by individual campuses. *For enforcement purposes, gang-related attire may be identified by specific colors. Principals shall work with SAISD Police to identify gang-related attire and shall communicate to students and parents what attire is considered gang-related in the school and community to prevent these violations.*

**These rules apply to all SAISD campuses and facilities and to any locations off-campus where SAISD students are receiving classroom instruction (e.g., official class field trips, internships, or other programs hosted at facilities other than SAISD).**

#### Extracurricular Activities

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate dress and grooming standards established for such an activity may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor and may be subject to other disciplinary action. [FNCA (LOCAL)].

#### Dress for Special Occasion Days

The principal has the authority to allow all or part of the student body to vary from the uniform and establish a particular mode of attire for special occasion days or for particular school-sponsored or school-related activities.

#### Uniform Options for Outerwear

Cold classroom and cold weather clothing must support the SAISD uniform policy by:

1. Providing the necessary warmth;
2. Maintaining visibility of the required uniform components;
3. Allowing students flexibility to add or remove an extra article of clothing (layering);
4. Complementing the required uniform components and being neat and clean;
5. Being the correct size (not oversized);
6. Complying with specific school guidelines addressing gang-related attire as determined by the principal;
7. Being appropriate to wear in a classroom for an entire school day;
8. Allowing flexibility for extreme weather conditions; and
9. Maintaining school safety – long coats extending below mid-thigh, including but not limited to trench coats, shall not be permitted.

#### Exemptions

A parent or guardian who requests that a child be exempted from the uniform requirement must submit a written statement that explains a religious or philosophical objection to the uniform requirement. Each campus shall provide forms for this purpose (Form F28-A). District or campus personnel shall not discriminate against any student who has been exempted from the mandatory use of uniforms because of religious or philosophical objections.

### Uniform Assistance Program

Uniform assistance will be provided for families that qualify. For information, contact the school principal or designee.

### Dress Code Violations

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the dress code, the student shall be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school if the occurrence is the first or second offense during the school year. If not corrected, or if the violation is a third offense within the school year, the student shall be assigned to in-school suspension, or be subject to other appropriate discipline consequences as determined by the principal, for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. Repeated dress code offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action, and may constitute a Level I or Level II offense. Appropriate discipline procedures shall be followed in all cases. [FNCA (LOCAL)].