

Jeannette City School District

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Jeannette, PA 15644

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Dress and Grooming
Code	221
Status	Active
Adopted	September 20, 2004
Last Revised	September 15, 2014

Purpose

The intent of this policy is to ensure that our students dress appropriately, are not disruptive to the educational process, and do not compromise the safety and security of the district schools. While requiring a specific type of clothing, it is not the district's purpose to interfere with student decisions or freedom of expression. However, the safety of all students, the security of the building, and the environment in which our students learn must be the foremost objectives of the district. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Authority

The Board has the authority to require students to wear standard dress or uniforms. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Guidelines

Dress Code for Grades K to 12

All students must attend school each day in standard dress as stated below:

Boys –

1. Tops – Blue, red, or white solid color collared shirts, such as polo style, turtlenecks, or dress shirts in long or short sleeve styles. Solid blue, red, or white sweaters are also permitted but must be worn over an acceptable collared shirt. Jeannette Jayhawk polo shirts sold by boosters groups and approved by the Board are also permitted. Powder blue, navy blue and royal blue are the acceptable shades of blue. Red must be red. Shades of pink, burgundy, and maroon will not be accepted.

Embroidered, manufactured logos are permitted if located in the upper corner of the shirt area. Small Jeannette Jayhawk logos, if embroidered, are permitted. "One manufacturer's logo/trademark or reference is permitted on the outside of each item which may not exceed 2 ¼ square inches and may not exceed 2 ¼ square inches in any dimension."

Shirts should be tucked in.

2. Bottoms – Khaki, black or navy color blue dress pants (or shorts during the months of April through October). No denim, cargo, sweatpants, nylon, low-riding pants of any kind or baggies.

No pants that are torn as a fashion statement. Shorts may not be higher than three (3) inches above the knee. All shorts and pants must be worn waist high and secured around the waist as to not sag or slouch.

3. Socks – Only blue, black, brown, red, or white socks are permitted.
4. Shoes – Dress shoes, boots or sneakers. No sandals, flip-flops, or slippers permitted. Sneakers with wheels are not permitted.
5. Belts – Optional and permitted in brown or black and must be solid in color but must be worn, if necessary, to secure pants or shorts at waist level. No patterns will be permitted.
6. All clothing must be sized appropriately, that is, they must be no more than one (1) regular size larger or (1) regular size smaller than the student actually measures.

Girls –

1. Tops – Blue, red, or white solid color collared shirts, such as polo style, turtlenecks, or dress shirts in long or short sleeve styles. Solid blue, red, or white sweaters are also permitted but must be worn over an acceptable collared shirt. Jeannette Jayhawk polo shirts sold by boosters groups and approved by the Board are also permitted. Powder blue, navy blue and royal blue are the acceptable shades of blue. Red must be red. Shades of pink, burgundy, and maroon will not be accepted.

Embroidered, manufactured logos are permitted if located in the upper corner of the shirt area. Small Jeannette Jayhawk logos, if embroidered, are permitted.

“One manufacturer’s logo/trademark or reference is permitted on the outside of each item which may not exceed 2 ¼ square inches and may not exceed 2 ¼ square inches in any dimension.”

Shirts should be tucked in.

2. Bottoms – Khaki , black or navy color blue dress pants, capris, shorts, skorts, or jumpers. Shorts are permitted during the months of April through October. No denim, cargo, sweatpants, nylon, “yoga” or low-riding pants of any kind or baggies. No pants that are torn as a fashion statement. No shorts, skorts, or jumpers may be higher than three (3) inches above the knee. All shorts and pants must be worn waist high and secured around the waist as to not sag or slouch.
3. Socks – Blue, black, brown, red, or white socks, tights or pantyhose. Natural shades of pantyhose are acceptable.
4. Shoes – Dress shoes, boots or sneakers. No sandals, flip-flops, or slippers permitted. Sneakers with wheels are not permitted.
5. Belts – Optional and permitted in brown or black and must be solid in color but must be worn, if necessary, to secure pants or shorts at waist level. No patterns will be permitted.
6. All clothing must be sized appropriately, that is, they must be no more than one (1) regular size larger or (1) regular size smaller than the student actually measures.

Additional Guidelines –

1. Length of pants should not extend beyond the bottom of the shoe and should not drag on the floor.
2. The width of the pant bottom should be no larger than the shoe size.
3. Spiked jewelry, chains, or any jewelry that may cause injury or constitute a hazard is not permitted.

4. Body piercing other than ears is not permitted to be worn in school.
5. Hats, bandanas, sunglasses, visors, and sweatbands are not permitted to be worn in school.
6. Any apparel that is judged to be unhealthy or unsanitary (e.g., clothing that is dirty and/or gives off a foul odor) is not permitted.
7. Each student is expected to maintain good personal hygiene.
8. Coats, jackets or garments designed for protection from the outside weather are not to be worn in school.
9. Undergarments should not be exposed in any way.

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student. This may be determined by the physical education teacher or building principal.[\[2\]](#)

Schools may waive the dress code for school-wide activities, such as the following, at the discretion of the school principal:

1. Picture day will be an exception day to the standard dress code. Guidelines will be issued by the Superintendent prior to picture day.
2. Dress-down Friday or Jayhawk Spirit Days – Students will be permitted to wear Jeannette Jayhawk apparel, but all clothing must be secured at the waist and follow the above guidelines.

Information Dissemination

The building principals have the responsibility to adequately inform parents/guardians and students of the district policy. Central Office administration will help facilitate where feasible.

The district and the schools will communicate through newsletters, flyers, parent/guardian meetings, PTO meetings, community support, and newspaper advertisements. Every effort will be made to publicize the policy in as many venues as possible and as often as possible.

Financial Considerations

The district shall seek the support of all local clothing retailers to secure cost-saving measures for all Jeannette students. The district and PTO will develop and maintain a list of resources. The PTO will sponsor a uniform swap program after the implementation year to provide parents/guardians with inexpensive, local means of recycling out-grown uniforms. Parents/Guardians will be required to complete a form indicating their financial hardship. Parents/Guardians will be directed to seek assistance by contacting the local PTO for assistance.

Within ten (10) days of Board approval of financial hardship, it is expected that students be in compliance with the uniform policy. If not, students may face disciplinary actions.

Transfer Students

Transfer students will be allowed ten (10) days from the date of admission to be in compliance with the uniform policy.

Compliance Measures

Each school shall develop incentive and positive reinforcement measures to encourage full compliance with the Jeannette School District dress code policy. Each school should strive to achieve full compliance through positive means and resort to disciplinary action only when positive measures fail to ensure compliance. In addition, schools shall communicate with parents/guardians so that expectations and benefits are fully understood by students and their families.

Disciplinary action should only be taken as a last resort to encourage compliance with the policy.

No student should be considered noncompliant with the policy under the following conditions:

1. When a student wears a button, armband, or other accouterment to exercise the right to freedom of expression, unless the accouterment signifies or is related to membership in any unauthorized organization, club, or group or is related to a drug or alcohol reference.
2. When complying with the dress code violates a student's sincerely held religious belief or medical circumstance.
3. When a student's parent/guardian has officially secured an exemption from the dress code from the Board of School Directors.

Discipline Guidelines

First Offense – Notification to parents/guardians that the student has committed a first offense and whereby the parent/guardian will be responsible for providing clothing which is in compliance with the dress and grooming policy within a reasonable amount of time while the student is held in the office. At the administrator's discretion, the student may be returned to class with the warning that the student has committed his/her first offense of the policy.

Second Offense – Notification to parents/guardians that the student has committed a second offense and whereby the parent/guardian will be responsible for providing clothing which is in compliance with the dress and grooming policy within a reasonable amount of time while the student is held in the office. The student may be subject to in-school suspension for the remainder of the school day.

Third Offense and Subsequent Violations – Exclusion from school on each school day thereafter that a student reports to class without being in compliance with the dress and grooming policy. Each day a parent/guardian allows a student to report to class without complying with the dress and grooming policy, the student will be sent home and that day will be counted as an illegal absence. After three (3) illegal absences, the parent/guardian will be considered in violation of the school attendance laws and face possible prosecution in the court system for their violation.

Exemptions

Parents/Guardians desiring to exempt their children from the Jeannette School District dress code for medical, religious, or financial reasons:

1. Request by mail or in person an Exemption from Dress Code Program form. The parent/guardian may obtain an exemption request from the student's school.
2. Complete the exemption request form in full and submit it to the school principal.
3. Meet with the school principal to discuss the dress code and the nature of the parent's/guardian's objections to the policy. The purposes of this meeting are to ensure that the parent/guardian understands the reasons for and the goals of the dress code; to verify the accuracy of the information and the exemption request form; and to prevent fraud or misrepresentation.
4. For purposes of consistent administration of the dress code, meet with the building principal to discuss the nature of the parent's/guardian's objections to the policy.

Annual Evaluation

All schools will participate in an evaluation at the end of the school year for the first two (2) years of the program. Therefore, the evaluation may be scheduled as part of the regular review process for the dress and discipline code.

The district shall design an evaluation for district-wide use. Each school shall complete an evaluation by May 1 of each year. The schools and the district shall review the results and shall consider modifications to the policy as necessary.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Board authorizes the building principal or designee to monitor student dress and grooming and enforce school rules.

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.

Bookbags/Backpacks/Gym Bags

Parents/Guardians and students purchasing bookbags, backpacks, or gym bags should select those items which are made of clear plastic or a material, such as mesh, which would allow for the easy identification of the bag's contents. Guidelines relating to the use of bookbags, backpacks, and gym bags shall be disseminated in student and parent handbooks.

Legal	1. 24 P.S. 1317.3
	2. 22 PA Code 12.11
	Pol. 220
	Pol. 325
	Pol. 425
	Pol. 525