

School Uniforms Required (Grades K-8)

On January 18, 1994, the Board of Education unanimously approved mandatory school uniforms for kindergarten through grade 8. Each elementary and middle school in the Long Beach Unified School District then adopted its own required school uniform. A complete description of the student uniform for each school is available from the school.

Uniform assistance is available to economically disadvantaged students. Information is available from the school principal or designee.

A parent who wishes to exempt a child from the uniform requirement shall request from the school by mail or in person an application for exemption. The completed application shall be submitted to the designated administrator for uniform program exemption at the school. To make certain the parent understands the reasons for the uniform policy and to verify information on the application, the parent shall meet with the designated administrator to discuss the uniform policy and the nature of the objections. The parent shall also meet with a designated district administrator to discuss the nature of the objections.

School Dress Standards

In addition to the student uniform required by each school, the following district dress standards have been established to insure that the instructional program of the school may operate fully and effectively for all students, free of interference and distraction and without hazard or threat to students' health, safety and general welfare.

The Long Beach Unified School District requires that:

1. Students attending school must be clean. Clothing worn to school must be neat and clean. It must fit. Oversized, baggy or saggy clothing is prohibited.
2. Closed footwear that covers the entire foot must be worn for safety reasons. Open sandals, high heeled shoes, slipper-type shoes and thongs are hazardous on the school playground and are not appropriate for school.
3. Also prohibited are jewelry items that may potentially cause injury, sunglasses (exceptions include medical reasons), and other decorations, ornaments and accessories not appropriate for elementary or middle school.
4. All blouses and shirts should be properly buttoned.
5. Appropriate undergarments that provide proper cover shall be worn.
6. Hair must be clean and show evidence of having been neatly groomed for school. Metal hair combs or other grooming products that may be considered hazardous may not be brought to school.
7. School sites have the responsibility to identify and restrict attire that may lead to unsafe conditions. If it is determined that particular clothing is gang related, the school site may prohibit students from wearing the identified attire.
8. Each school site will notify parents of the specific school uniform requirements of the school. Information regarding exemptions is available from the school.

Sun Protection—35183.5(b). Each school shall allow students to use sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats and sunglasses when outdoors. Specific clothing and hats determined by the school district or school to be gang-related or inappropriate apparel may be prohibited by the dress code policy. Each school shall allow pupils the use of sunscreen during the school day without a physician's note or prescription. Each school site may set a policy related to the type of sun-protective clothing and the use of sunscreen by pupils during the school day. Sunscreen is not considered an over-the-counter medication. School personnel are not required to assist pupils in applying sunscreen.

Nothing in these dress standards precludes the school from establishing and requiring more stringent uniform or dress requirements.

Please Note: The State of California has determined that "A pupil who goes to school without proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness or neatness of dress, may be sent home to be properly prepared for school, or shall be required to prepare himself/herself for the classroom before entering." (*California Administrative Code*, Title V, Section 302) 1994.

The district requires all students in kindergarten through grade 8 to wear a school uniform as identified by the student's school. In cases of economic hardship, help in obtaining uniforms is available. You may obtain an exemption from the uniform requirement. For more information call your child's school. If there are any problems, call Karen Hilburn at 997-8000, ext. 8038. If you are unable to resolve your concerns, you may obtain a Parent/Guardian Complaint form at your child's school.

For further information, access the LBUSD website at lbusd.k12.ca.us.

High School Dress and Grooming Standards (Grades 9-12), High School Academic Dress Code

A student's dress and general appearance should not be such that it draws undesirable attention to the student, nor should dress and appearance detract or interfere with teaching and learning in the classroom and on the campus. It is expected that all students shall maintain their person and clothing in a modest, clean, and age-appropriate fashion consistent with our dress code and compatible with the instructional program. In an effort to maintain a safe and secure school environment, high schools may issue schoolwide identification badges to their students, faculty and staff members. Schools will notify parents of the necessity and requirements of the policy.

Boys' Dress Code--Acceptable Clothing and Grooming

- a. Footwear must be appropriate for school activities. Sandals must have a heel strap.
- b. All T-shirts, polo-type shirts and shirts with tails must be worn tucked inside trousers. Shirts must be appropriately fitted at the shoulders. Shirts designed to be worn out, sweaters and sweatshirts may be worn out.
- c. Suspenders and overalls must be worn up. Belt tails may be no longer than 4 inches from the first belt loop and may not hang down as a tail. They should be appropriately sized at the waist and fitted into the belt loops.

- d. Personal grooming items must be kept in locker or back pack.
- e. Hemmed cords, slacks, shorts and jeans, which are appropriately fitted at the waist and at the leg inseam and/or crotch area may be worn (no sagging).

Boys--Unacceptable Clothing and Grooming

- a. Tank tops, mesh shirts, plain white T-shirts.
- b. Cotton sweat pants, sweat or jogging outfits, matching or not.
- c. Cut-off sweats and jeans, biker shorts, tight shorts, shorts over 4 inches above the kneecap, boxer shorts or shorts that look like boxer shorts worn as outerwear. Clothes which allow undergarments to be exposed.
- d. Hats, headbands, headgear, bandannas, baseball-type caps, hairnets, and combs in the hair.
- e. Clothing and accessories with obscene or gang-related material, or other material that would materially and substantially interfere with appropriate discipline or the educational mission of the school.
- f. Clothing and accessories, which are unsafe and/or dangerous (for example: studded belts and wrist bands, metal belts, chains, handcuffs, etc.).
- g. Tears, holes, patches, slits in the seams, and ragged hems in clothes and shoes.
- h. Gang/tagger crew tattoos or writing on the body.
- i. Oversized clothing.

Girls' Dress Code--Acceptable Clothing and Grooming

- a. Footwear must be appropriate for school activities with heels not to exceed 2 inches. Sandals must have a heel strap (e.g. no thongs, mules or slides).
- b. Leggings may be worn under appropriate length dress or skirt, or with appropriately sized blouse, tunic, (not T-shirt) or sweater, both of which must be mid-thigh and worn out.
- c. Suspenders and overalls must be worn up. Belt tails may be no longer than 4 inches from the first belt loop and may not hang down as a tail. They should be appropriately sized at the waist and fitted into the belt loops.
- d. Personal grooming items must be kept in the student's purse, backpack, or locker.
- e. Hemmed cords, slacks, culottes, shorts and jeans which are appropriately fitted at the waist and at the leg inseam and/or crotch area may be worn (no sagging).
- f. Dresses, skirts, jumpers and blouses.
 - 1) Hemlines and slits on dresses, skirts and shorts are not to be shorter than mid-thigh.
 - 2) All T-shirts, athletic jerseys, blouses and shirts with tails are to be worn tucked in. Sweaters, knit tops, and sweatshirts may be worn out, but must be below the waist.
- g. Open knit, large weave sweaters must be worn with an acceptable blouse or shirt underneath.

Girls--Unacceptable Clothing and Grooming

- a. Dresses and Tops: Strapless, spaghetti straps, off-the-shoulder, cut-out designs, floor-length, and sun dresses; low-cut or tight shirts; blouses or tops that bare the midriff at any time; bare-back, tube tops, male-type athletic tank tops and plain white T-shirts; see-through and sheer clothing that does not have an appropriate blouse or shirt underneath.

- b. Cotton sweatpants, sweat or jogging outfits, matching or not.
- c. Cut-off sweats and jeans, biker shorts, tight shorts, shorts shorter than mid-thigh, boxer shorts or shorts that look like boxer shorts, worn as outerwear. Clothes which allow undergarments to be exposed.
- d. Hats, head covering, curlers, bandannas, hair nets and headbands across the forehead, baseball-type caps, and combs in the hair.
- e. Clothing and accessories with obscene or gang-related material or other material that would materially and substantially interfere with appropriate discipline or the educational mission of the school.
- f. Clothing and accessories which are unsafe and/or dangerous (for example: studded belts, chains, handcuffs, etc.).
- g. Tears, holes, slits in the seams, and ragged hems on clothes or shoes.
- h. Gang/tagger crew-related tattoos or writing on the body.
- i. Tight fitting and revealing clothing and/or oversized clothing.

Gang/Tagger Crew-Related Unacceptable Clothing/Accessories Applying to Both Boys and Girls

The following clothing is unacceptable and not allowed due to its association and/or affiliation with gangs:

- 1. Hats, caps, headgear, bandannas.
- 2. Trench-type, knee-length coats (unless specific to inclement weather).
- 3. Clothing, haircuts, and accessories worn in a manner which could be associated with gang or group affiliation.
- 4. Plain white T-shirts.
- 5. Any gang/tagger crew-identified apparel.
- 6. Knee socks with over-the-knee shorts.
- 7. Initial belt buckles.
- 8. Gang/tagger crew writing on shoes, clothes or body, backpacks or accessories.
- 9. Any combination deemed gang/tagger crew-related as concluded by law enforcement agencies.

Spirit Clothing and Spirit Days

Schools may have special provisions that allow school spirit team, or club-related clothing, to be worn either on a daily basis or on designated days.

Dress Code Violation Consequences

Students who appear at school wearing inappropriate clothing or who are inappropriately groomed will not be allowed to attend class until they make the changes necessary to meet the Long Beach Unified School District's dress and grooming requirements. Changes could entail removing objectionable clothing items, putting on acceptable clothing provided by the school, or contacting parents to return home to obtain appropriate clothing.

Violation #1

Dress Code Violation form sent to parents via student (Warning #1).

Violation #2

Dress Code Violation form sent to parents via student and 60 minutes detention. Counselor phones parent.

Violation #3

Dress Code Violation form sent to parents via student, and Saturday Work program, on-campus suspension, or non-class time trash pickup may be assigned. Administrator phones parent.

Violation #4

Dress Code Violation form sent to parents via student and possible suspension. Administrator contacts parent.

Note: Dress code violations are recorded by the school year. After each offense, student is informed of the consequence that will result if another dress code violation occurs.

School Uniforms – Wilson, Millikan and Hill

Wilson High School and Hill Middle School offer a classical program, which includes school uniforms and special academic and attendance requirements. Millikan High School also offers challenging academic programs with a school uniform requirement.

Attendance at these special programs is by application and includes the mandatory school uniform program. In cases of economic hardship, help in obtaining uniforms is available. For more information, call the school. If there are problems, call Karen Hilburn, Director, Student Placement Services at 997-8000, ext. 8038. If you are unable to resolve your concerns, you may obtain a parent/guardian complaint form at the school.