

## Students

### Required Attire

The Ansonia Board of Education recognizes the need to maintain order and decorum in the educational environment and to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning. The conduct and dress of students which is acceptable and proper after school hours (recreation and home) may not be acceptable and proper for the school environment. Therefore, the attire that is required for students is as outlined in the accompanying administrative regulation.

Legal Reference: PA 96-101 An Act Concerning School Uniforms

*Byars et. al. v. City of Waterbury et. al.* (June 3, 1999)

Policy adopted: April 7, 2004  
Policy revised: August 4, 2008  
Policy revised: May 13, 2009

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Ansonia, Connecticut

## **Students**

### **Required Attire**

#### **Grades K-8**

##### **Required Attire For Boys:**

1. “Dress” or “docked” style pants or shorts (no cargo side pockets) in solid black, blue or khaki.
  - a. Pants or shorts must be worn at the waist.
  - b. Shorts must be no higher than 4” above the knee.
2. Oxford or polo style shirts, long or short sleeved with a collar in solid colors or stripes.
  - a. Polo shirts may be worn outside or tucked into pants or shorts.
  - b. Oxford style shirts must be tucked into pants or shorts.

##### **Required Attire For Girls:**

1. Jumpers, skirts, pants, shorts, capris or skorts in solid blue, black or khaki.
  - a. Skirts, pants, shorts, skorts and skirts must be “dress” or “docked” style (no cargo side pockets).
  - b. Skirts, pants, shorts, and skorts must be worn at the waist.
  - c. Jumpers, skirts, shorts or skorts must be worn no higher than 4” above the knee.
2. Oxford or polo style shirts, long or short sleeved, with a collar in solid colors or stripes.
  - a. Polo shirts may be worn outside or tucked into pants or shorts.
  - b. Oxford style shirts must be tucked into pants or shorts.

##### **General:**

1. Vests or sweaters in blue; black, or white cardigan, crew, or v-neck style are optional and may be worn over shirts.
2. Shoes or sneakers are allowed. However, footwear which causes noisy distractions, high heels which can cause safety hazards or footwear which causes marks on floors are not permitted.
3. Boys/girls may wear turtlenecks in blue, white, or black.

## **Students**

### **Required Attire**

#### **Grades K-8 (continued)**

#### **Religious and Health Accommodations:**

Where the bona fide religious beliefs or the health need of a student conflicts with the school required attire policy, the school will provide reasonable accommodation. Any student desiring accommodation shall notify the school Principal in writing of the requested accommodation and the factual basis for the request. Approved coverings worn as part of a student's bona fide religious practices or beliefs or health need shall not be prohibited under this policy.

#### **Accommodation of Free Expression:**

An approved item containing an expressive message is permitted (i.e., a button supporting a political candidate may be worn). However, expressive items are prohibited if, in the reasonable judgment of school officials, they may tend to disrupt or interfere with educational interests, (i.e., racist messages, sexist messages, gang insignia, messages promoting drug or alcohol abuse, and profane or pornographic messages or illustrations). Also prohibited during the school day are items of clothing that undermine the integrity of required attire, such as a shirt that contains expressive writing.

#### **Clothing Assistance:**

It is the policy of the Board of Education that no student will be denied an education due to bona fide financial inability to obtain clothing that complies with the Required Attire Policy. Any student, for whom compliance with the school attire policy poses a financial burden, may submit a written request for clothing assistance to the school Principal specifying the clothing needed together with a statement of financial need.

#### **Compliance:**

Students are required to abide by the required attire. School administrators and teachers are encouraged to use positive reinforcement to obtain compliance with school attire requirements. School personnel, including substitutes, should also serve as role models for proper attire in the educational setting.

#### **Non-Compliance:**

Administration reserves the right to address and administer consequences deemed appropriate for any student who does not comply with the required attire policy. Students entering the building who are not in the required attire will be sent to the office and a parent/guardian will be called immediately. A verbal warning will be given. A second infraction will result in school detention and notification of a parent/guardian.

## **Students**

### **Required Attire**

#### **Grades K-8 (continued)**

#### **Administrative Review:**

Any student who believes that the school has not reasonably accommodated his or her bona fide religious, health, or financial needs or right of free expression, may submit a written statement of such to the Ansonia Board of Education. The Board, or its designee, will review the matter and respond in writing to the student's concerns.

#### **Inappropriate Attire:**

The following are considered inappropriate for all students (under the Required Attire or Opt-Out Provision) to wear during the school day:

1. Pants, skirts, shirts, shorts, or skorts or sweat, spandex or any color denim/canvas/jean material. No cargo-style pants, shirts, shorts, or skorts.
2. Tank tops, undershirts, tee-shirts, halter tops, tube tops, bare midriffs, transparent clothing, plunging, revealing or provocative necklines (front or back), hooded shirts, and shirts containing expressive writing.
3. Any clothing which is torn or ragged.
4. Skirts, shorts, skorts or jumpers shorter than 4" above the knee.
5. Outer coats, fleece jackets, windbreakers, hats, caps, scarves, earmuffs, bandannas, curlers, goggles, sunglasses, or backpacks are prohibited indoors.
6. Oversized jewelry, chains, medallions, and earrings, or wallet/key chains causing danger or distraction.
7. Clothing or items indicating any gang affiliations, racist messages, sexist messages, messages promoting drug or alcohol abuse, and profane or pornographic messages or illustrations.
8. Any clothing or accessory which is likely to cause a disruption or distraction from school activities.
9. Footwear which causes noisy distraction or which is unsafe or a health hazard.

## Students

### Required Attire

#### Grades K-8

#### **Inappropriate Attire:** (continued)

The inappropriate attire section shall not prohibit any student, including those who “opt-out,” under Section 10 of this policy, from requesting an accommodation for a bonafide religious belief or health need as provided under Section 4 of this policy.

Administration may permit exemptions from required attire on designated days.

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