

Administrative Procedures Manual	Administrative Procedure 350.1
	Development of Student Dress Code
	APPROVED: September 2013
Page 1 of 1	AMENDED/REVIEWED: April 2024, September 2019, November 2014, June 2024
LEGAL REFERENCE:	Section 8, 11, 31, 36, 37, 52, 53, 197, 222, 257 Education Act Alberta Human Rights Legislation

Background

Different forms of dress are appropriate in different situations. Student choice for dress, and how others speak to students about their dress, should contribute to welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environments.

The Division encourages students, under the supervision of their parents, to maintain high standards of dress, grooming and appearance that comply with the dress code of the school that their child attends. Schools have the responsibility to establish and maintain dress codes that are inclusive, respect the diversity of students and cultures and contribute to welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environments. Parents and students carry the responsibility for adhering to their school's dress code.

Procedures

1. School administration is expected to engage with students, staff, and school councils to inform the school's student dress code.
2. The school administration will, at least once per year, send a notice to parents that outlines the dress code expectations of their school.
3. The student dress code will identify strategies for responding to instances of students not meeting the standards of the code. Strategies for responding will include ways that the dignity of students and respect for their diversity be maintained.
4. Student dress codes, developed by individual schools must include three basic principles:
 - 4.1. Students must wear: Top, bottom, footwear.
 - 4.1.1. Some courses may require specific attire as part of the curriculum or safety requirements.
 - 4.2. Certain body parts must be covered for all students: Clothing must be worn in a way that genitals, buttocks and nipples are covered with opaque material.
 - 4.3. Students cannot wear:
 - Violent language or images
 - Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol.
 - Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
 - Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on a protected class as identified in the Alberta Human Rights Legislation.
5. School administrators will support staff to understand how to enforce the code with the least impact on student learning and well being.