

Related Entries: (Not identified at this time)

School Uniforms

The following procedures shall be followed when establishing or maintaining a uniform policy for students.

- (1) Schools choosing an optional plan should work with the School Advisory Council and the official parent/guardian advisory group prior to implementation.
- (2) A school may choose to request approval for a required school uniform. Schools choosing to implement required uniforms must follow the "Adoption of School Uniforms" process document and receive implement an optional school uniform without District approval from the Chief Academic Officer. Schools choosing a required plan should work with the School Advisory Council.
- (3) A school should establish a timeline so that the Department of Student Assignment is provided with information regarding the uniform policy no later than November 1 of each school year.
- (4) For the "Adoption of School Uniforms" process, a school should write a brief, proposal that includes:
 - (a) A rationale stating why the school wants to establish a required uniform policy (this should include research on the benefits of uniforms - reduce inappropriate student behavior, build positive climate, cost less for the parent/guardian, etc.).
 - (b) A description of the process used to inform and educate parents/guardian, staff and students, regarding the required uniform proposed.
 - (c) Documentation to show the percentage of parents/ guardians, staff, and students who favor uniforms -- in order to establish a required uniform policy:
 1. A school must have 80% of the faculty and staff in favor of required uniforms.
 2. A school must have 80% of the membership of its School Advisory Council in favor of required uniforms.

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3. A school must have 80% of its parent/guardian population respond to the survey and 80% of the responses must be favorable. The parent/guardian population should include all but the highest grade in the school. Written responses should be based on one response per student in eligible grades.
 4. Students of eligible grades should be surveyed and the results reported.
- (d) A statement describing how the school shall work with a parent/guardian/student who cannot afford uniforms.
- (5) Criteria
- Schools that are implementing an optional or a required uniform policy must adhere to the following criteria:
- (a) When uniforms are required:
 1. An indigent parent/guardian and his/her child(ren) may be provided uniforms through some type of assistance program (uniform exchange, "Clothes Closet" where uniforms may be purchased at a reduced price, loans with a repayment system, scholarships, purchase of uniforms by a parent/guardian group or assistance with funds from the parent group, a business partner provides uniforms for those unable to purchase them, etc.).
 2. Options for a parent/guardian to purchase uniforms from various stores must be provided.
 3. Insignias and patches must be approved by the school and may be optional only.
 4. Strategies will be provided for assisting students during the day who come to school without the uniform.
 5. During the school year, newly enrolled and/or transfer students must be given a minimum of 10 school days before enforcement begins.
 - (b) When uniforms are either optional or required:
 1. Meetings established to discuss uniforms must be open to all parents/guardians.

- 87 2. Communication about uniform policies must be in writing from the
88 principal to the parents/guardians.
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- 90 (6) The Superintendent is given authority to approve the implementation of school
91 uniforms at a newly established school for the first year of operation. If the school
92 wishes to continue to require school uniforms after the first year of operation, it must
93 complete the adoption process established in this policy.
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96 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 1001.42, 1001.43, F.S.
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98 Adopted: 1/6/09
99 Revised: 11/22/11