



# KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

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**Section:** Educational Services

• Student Welfare

**Regulation Code:** ES-1.1.11

**Regulation:** SAFE, CARING AND RESTORATIVE  
**SCHOOLS: DRESS CODE**

**Policy Code Reference:** ES-1.1  
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This administrative regulation is written in accordance with the guiding principles in Board Policy No. ES-1.1, Safe, Caring and Restorative Schools.

Dress Codes shall be developed at each local school and will identify appropriate clothing which recognizes the uniqueness of individuals, acknowledges respect for self and others and permits each student to actively participate in the learning environment.

### 1. Dress Code Preliminary Procedures

- 1.1 In consultation with school council members and students, where appropriate, the principal shall develop draft dress code expectations for street clothes based on the expectation in the Administrative Regulation No. ES 1.1.1, Safe, Caring and Restorative Schools: Discipline/Promoting Positive Student Behaviour/Code of Conduct which is: dress in a manner that is appropriate to school activities with regard to exposure, cleanliness and/or message.
- 1.2 The school council, in consultation with the principal and students, where appropriate, will determine what constitutes a significant interest in a type of school uniform which would initiate a future feasibility study by the school council.
- 1.3 The principal shall communicate the draft dress code expectations for street clothes to students, parent(s)/guardian(s), staff and the school community and invite responses to the draft recommendations. Notice to parent(s)/guardian(s) will advise that, with significant interest, further study into the possibility of a more formalized dress code by way of a type of school uniform may be considered.

### 2. Street Clothes with Dress Code Expectation Selection

- 2.1 When recommendations to the draft dress code expectations for street clothes are returned from students and/or parent(s)/guardian(s), and there are not enough requests to initiate a study to consider a type of school uniform, these recommendations will be considered by the principal and the school council before finalizing the school dress code.

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- 2.2 The principal shall include the finalized dress code expectations as part of Section 5 of the Board's Code of Conduct for Students and any definitions of terms required for clarity.

### **3. School Uniform Selection**

- 3.1 When students, parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or staff express significant interest for further study into the possibility of a dress code which includes a type of school uniform, the school council, in consultation with the principal, will determine if the interest meets the threshold set out in Item 1.2 above.
- 3.2 If the requests to have a further study into a type of school uniform exceeds the threshold established in Item 1.2 above, the school council, in consultation with the principal, will determine the interest in a type of school uniform with all students, parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or staff in the school community. Methods to determine the extent of the school community interest may include:
- 3.2.1 surveys;
  - 3.2.2 discussion forums; and/or
  - 3.2.3 focus groups.
- 3.3 Based on the interest response of the school community, including students, the school council, in consultation with the principal, will determine whether to continue with the feasibility study.
- 3.4 When the school council and the principal elect to continue with the feasibility study, they shall develop the following in consultation with students and staff:
- 3.4.1 type of school uniform based on survey information;
  - 3.4.2 exemption procedures for students who, for appropriate reasons (e.g. race, culture, religion, disability, etc.), request a modification to the school uniform, or exemption from wearing it entirely;
  - 3.4.3 options to provide financial assistance for students for whom uniform costs may be prohibitive (e.g. school fund, fund set up from school uniform sales, deferred payment plans, etc.); and

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3.4.4 expectations for student compliance with the dress code with school uniforms.

3.5 The principal, with support of the school council, shall take the information prepared on a dress code with school uniforms and conduct a final survey/vote of students and parent(s)/guardian(s) and include expectations and consequences for compliance, exemptions, and financial support options.

3.6 Eighty-five per cent of the eligible parent(s)/guardian(s)/adult students of the school community will constitute a majority decision. This majority must support the option of a dress code with school uniforms in order for school uniforms to be implemented.

One vote per family unit will be permitted where one family unit includes all siblings (and step siblings) attending the same school.

Adult students (eighteen years of age) and students sixteen years of age or older, who are living independently, will be permitted their own vote. When an adult student resides at home with a younger sibling in the same secondary school, the adult student will receive a vote in addition to the family unit vote.

3.7 The principal shall communicate the final decision to the students, parent(s)/guardian(s) and staff of the school community and if the majority decide in favour of a dress code with school uniform, the communication will include the date of implementation.

3.8 The principal shall include the decisions regarding the dress code with school uniform in Section 5 of the Board's Code of Conduct for Students and any definitions of terms required for clarity.

#### **4. Dress Code Review Procedures for Schools**

4.1 Dress codes are to be included in the Board's Code of Conduct for Students. The school community reviews the Code every three years. A review of the established school dress code will be conducted by the principal, in consultation with the school community, every three years in preparation for the review of the Board's Code of Conduct for Students.

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- 4.2 When a dress code with school uniform has been previously determined, the review process may begin with the survey/vote outlined in Item 3.5 above. An eighty-five percent majority, as outlined in Item 3.6 above, must be met if a dress code with school uniform is to be continued.