

Policy #5511.2 Policy Permitting School Uniforms at District Elementary Schools

Pursuant to the Board's Master Policy on School Uniforms, the principals, faculty and parents of the district's Elementary Schools requested that the Board adopt a policy permitting uniforms at the district's Elementary Schools. Following a detailed presentation by representatives of the district's Elementary Schools, this Board finds that a policy permitting school uniforms will enhance the learning environment at the district's Elementary Schools and hereby grants the request for a school uniform policy.

1. There is hereby established for the district's Elementary Schools, a school uniform consisting of the following wardrobe:

GIRLS: Red polo shirt with the Vineland Public Schools logo

BOYS: Red polo shirt with the Vineland Public Schools logo

All determinations regarding student compliance with these school uniform specifications shall be made by the principals.

2. The principal shall develop positive incentives and positive reinforcement measures to encourage participation in the school's uniform program. The principal and/or his/her designees shall communicate with parents so that expectations and benefits are understood and achieved.

3. No student shall be considered non-compliant with any school's uniform policy under the following circumstances:

a.) when the student's parent/guardian has elected that his/her student not participate in the school's uniform program and has provided written notice of such decision to the school's principal;

b.) due to financial hardship the parent/guardian, though willing to participate, cannot afford to furnish the uniforms;

c.) when the student is wearing the uniform of a nationally recognized youth organization such as the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts on a day when a meeting of the organization is scheduled.

4. No student at the district's Elementary Schools shall be denied admission, penalized academically or discriminated against for noncompliance with the uniform policy.

5. The principal shall develop and implement detailed procedures for the identification of and a mechanism to assist students who are economically disadvantaged, including:

1.) procedures for dissemination of cost information to parents;

2.) procedures and criteria to identify families in need of financial assistance;

3.) identification of public and private resources for financial assistance to families;

4.) designation of specific individual or individuals to assist those families in applying for financial aid.

This policy shall not preclude students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization which is approved by the Board of Education from wearing organization uniforms to school on days that the organization has scheduled a meeting. The principal shall maintain a list of approved organizations.

The principal shall design and implement at the end of each school year an evaluation of the effectiveness of the school's uniform program. A report of that evaluation shall be submitted to the Board and Superintendent by July 1st immediately following the close of the school year.

{Source: PL 1996 CH.93}

ADOPTED: 13 September 2006