DRESS CODE/SCHOOL UNIFORMS S.17

POLICY

1. All schools within the jurisdiction of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board shall adopt an appropriate dress code for students.

2. A school's student dress code shall be in keeping with the Board's philosophy, mission and vision, and Catholic social teachings.

3. All secondary schools within the jurisdiction of the Board shall adopt a mandatory school uniform policy.

4. All elementary schools within the jurisdiction of the Board shall adopt a mandatory school uniform policy.

5. Only a school logo/name shall be permitted on school uniforms. Advertisement of any kind on school uniforms is prohibited.

6. All schools shall have a signed contract with a supplier.

7. All suppliers of school uniforms must adhere to "The Sweatshop Free Purchasing Policy".

REGULATIONS

1. Education Act Regulation 298 (Requirements for Pupils) S.23 (1)(f).

2. Safe Schools Act, 2007. Education Act S.302 (5)

Definitions

1. Dress Code is defined as the standard of student dress agreed upon by the school community and in keeping with the Education Act & Regulations.

2. School Uniform is defined as the standard of student dress consistent in style, colour and pieces [i.e. shirts, sweaters and pants].

PROCEDURES

Dress Code

1. The Principal, in consultation with the Catholic School Council, shall develop a student dress code as part of the Code of Student Conduct. While schools are able to list available items of school uniforms and how they are to be worn, it is necessary to address external trappings that some students may choose to adopt. These include such things as chains, jewellery, body piercing, spiked bracelets/necklaces, excessive make-up etc. Therefore, any externals not in keeping with the spirit of the dress code as judged by the school administration will not be permitted.

2. A school's student dress code shall be communicated annually to the school community.

School Uniform

Secondary Schools
The items which make up the school uniform, the guidelines and compliance which govern the wearing of the uniform are to be adhered according to the School's Dress/Uniform policy.

Elementary Schools
All elementary school shall abide by the following principles in the implementation of mandatory school uniform.

The following are the minimum items that make up the school uniform:

Bottoms: Navy blue (**only** casual pants, walking shorts, skorts)

Tops: Navy blue or white (golf shirts, polo shirts, turtlenecks)

NOTE: Visible T-shirts worn under uniform tops must be navy blue or white only

PROCEDURES cont'd

Cost: The following strategies shall be used as a means of keeping costs affordable for all parents. They are:

- give advance notice to parents of uniform requirement
- suppliers should provide a percent return to help off-set costs
- suppliers should provide further discounts to families with more than 2 children
- set up swap days during the year
- facilitate donations of outgrown items

Compliance/Enforcement:

Mandatory school uniform implies that all students arrive at school dressed appropriately. Failure to do so shall result in consequences. The following progressive disciplinary consequences are to be followed:

1. Three verbal reminders along with a written notification (notes, agendas) to parents by the teacher.

2. Written communication by the principal or designate to parent regarding the breach of the Board policy and outlining the following consequences for further breach.

   (i) loss of privileges (but not recess) and/or

   (ii) student receives detention/age appropriate discipline assignment and/or

   (iii) parent is contacted to pick up student from school and/or

   (iv) student will be suspended in the event the student attends without proper uniform attire.

BM 6 Mar 01, 7 May 02, April 04, 1 June 04, 2 June 09, 3 Mar 10, June 2010

RELATED BY-LAW(S): 7.02

RELATED BOARD COMMITTEE: Religion, Family Life and Instructional Services, Committee of the Whole

POLICY REVIEW DATE: 5 years