



Administration

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2018-2019 South Valley Academy Dress Code

South Valley Academy's student dress code supports equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes. To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance household income or body type/size.

Governing Council

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Our values are:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal "distractions" without regulating individual students' clothing/self expression.
- Student dress code enforcement should not result in shaming or unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

Our student dress code is designed to accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes or activities where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as chemistry/biology (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards) or athletic movement (athletic attire/shoes)
- Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable.
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with images or language depicting or advocating violence or the use of alcohol or drugs.

- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.

South Valley Academy expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. Student dress choices should respect South Valley Academy's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parents(s) or guardian(s). South Valley Academy is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student. Any restriction to the way a student dresses must be necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and must be explained within this dress code.

1. Basic Principle: Certain body parts must be covered for all students at times.

Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, breasts, and nipples are fully covered with opaque/solid fabric. However, cleavage should not have coverage requirements. All items in the "must wear" and "may wear" categories below must meet the basic principle.

2. Students Must Wear, while following the basic principle of Section 1 above:

- A shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms) AND
- Pants/Jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings a dress or shorts, AND
- Shoes.

Please note: Courses that include attire as part of the curriculum (for example, service learning) may include assignment-specific dress, but should not focus on covering bodies in a particular way or promoting culturally-specific attire. Activity-specific shoe requirements are permitted (for example, athletic shoes for athletic movement).

3. Students May Wear, as long as it does not violate Section 1 above:

- Hats, beanies, and other headwear are allowed. Headwear must allow the face to be visible to staff, and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff.
- Religious headwear.
- Hoodie sweatshirts (wearing the hood overhead is allowed outside of the classroom).
- Fitted pants, including solid leggings, yoga pants and "skinny jeans."
- Pajamas.

- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear and buttocks are not exposed.
- Athletic attire.
- Visible waistbands on undergarments or visible straps on undergarments worn under other clothing (as long as this done in a way that does not violate Section 1 above).
- Tank tops, off the shoulder blouses, and Spaghetti straps
- Clothing with commercial or athletic logos provided they do not violate Principle 1 above.

4. Students Cannot Wear:

- Violent language or images.
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity).
- Hate speech, profanity, and pornography.
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups
- Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments (visible waistband and visible shoulder straps are allowed, but back straps of bras should not be visible).
- Swimsuits (unless required for a school-sponsored event)
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon
- Any item that obscures the face or ears (except as a religious observance)
- Strapless shirts/tube tops
- Clothing that bares the wearer's midsection or midriff baring shirts
- Sunglasses inside buildings except when there are specific medical reasons

5. Dress Code Enforcement:

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below. School administration and staff shall not have discretion to vary the requirement in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement.

- Students in violation will be provided three (3) options to be dressed more to code during the school day:
 - Students will be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
 - Students will be provided with temporary school clothing to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
 - If necessary, students' parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.
- No student should be affected by dress code enforcement because of racial identity, sex assigned at birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity.
- School staff shall not enforce the school's dress code more strictly against transgender and gender nonconforming students than other students.
- Students should not be shamed or required to display their body in front of others (students, parents, or staff) in school. "Shaming" includes, but is not limited to:
 - Kneeling or bending over to check attire fit;
 - Measuring straps or skirt length;
 - Asking students to account for their attire in the classroom or in hallways in front of others;
 - Calling out students in spaces, in hallways, or in classrooms about perceived dress code violations in front of others; in particular, directing students to correct sagged pants that do not expose the entire undergarment, or confronting students about visible bra straps, since visible waistbands and straps on undergarments are permitted; and,
 - Accusing students of "distracting" other students with their clothing.

These dress code guidelines shall apply to regular school days and summer school days, as well as any school-related events and activities.

Students who feel they have been subject to discriminatory enforcement of the dress code should contact the School Principal/Director.

Inspired in part by Oregon NOW Model Dress Code