

**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO
THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

SUBJECT: Supporting an Expanded and Identity-Affirming Dress Code Policy for all Schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (Res-032-18/19)

DATE NOTICED: 04-23-19

PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 06-18-19

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Okeke, Ms. García,
Ms. Gonez

MOVED/SECONDED BY: Mr. Okeke /
Ms. Gonez

MOTION:

RESOLUTION: x

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District aims to support equality among its students and staff;

Whereas, The District's existing dress code policy recognizes attire as a protected form of expression of personal identities and ideas;

Whereas, The District specifies that all dress codes be gender-neutral, which means that students may not be restricted from wearing attire that is traditionally associated with another gender;

Whereas, The District leaves the establishment of school dress codes up to individual schools with the expectation that schools adhere to District guidelines, unless there is a compelling reason, such as attire that promotes gang affiliation or intergroup conflict;

Whereas, When establishing their own dress codes, many schools, nevertheless, do impose guidelines that are more restrictive than those recommended by the District;

Whereas, The District must intervene when necessary to ensure that dress code policies are affirming of and reflect the District's support of all students, regardless of their race, ethnicity, culture, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, religion, class, opinions, body size, income, disabilities, and immigration status;

Whereas, Dress code policies disproportionately regulate feminine expression, particularly that of Black/African American womxn and gender diverse and non-binary students;

Whereas, Discriminatory dress code policies have an adverse effect on learning and communicate that womxn's bodies are inherently sexual, provocative, dangerous, and that harassment is inevitable;

Whereas, We must not burden femxle students with the responsibility of managing the sexual impulses and distractibility of their peers;

Whereas, Students demand greater agency over their bodies and what they decide to wear; and

Whereas, Students desire a progressive dress code that is empowering, mindful of their rights and affirming of their identities; now, therefore, be it

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Resolved, That school dress codes will recognize culturally and religiously specific attire and prioritize student safety, well-being, egalitarianism, and inclusivity;

Resolved further, That the District will communicate with all principals at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year, reminding them of the expectation that all dress codes are non-discriminatory and must abide by BUL-6494 Student Dress Codes/Uniforms;

Resolved further, That schools partner with students representing the broad school community to ensure that the enforcement of their current dress code is restorative and not punitive, and has appropriate restrictions for bona fide safety reasons including gang affiliation and intergroup conflicts;

Resolved further, That Human Relations, Diversity and Equity will review the existing District BUL-6494 Student Dress Codes/Uniforms to ensure that it is affirming of sexual and gender diversity, religious expression, allows for protected expression, urban styles, and students' preferences for attire, within the safety guidelines of the schools at-large;

Resolved further, That Human Relations, Diversity and Equity will seek out input from student populations that include, but are not limited to:

- A. Femxle students
- B. Members of the LGBTQ+ community
- C. Black and Latinx students from communities impacted by gang activity
- D. Students who wear head coverings for religious purposes;

Resolved further, That the District will share the revised dress code policy with principals with the instruction to review their dress codes in light of the revised policy and with input from students representing the school community;

Resolved further, That school sites may submit unique restrictions to their Local District Superintendent or their designee for approval;

Resolved further, That added restrictions will not seek to restrict the wearing of urban outfits or styles but only limit clothing styles, symbols, or articles that pose a reasonable threat to the safety or operations of the school site;

Resolved further, That Human Relations, Diversity and Equity will instruct teachers and school site administrators on how to enforce their dress code policies using restorative practices that do not objectify, demean, or degrade students;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent direct the Office of Human Relations, Diversity and Equity to be available to students and parents and guardians regarding dress code policy concerns and conflicts that were not addressed effectively at the school site;

Resolved further, That the District will continue to honor every student and their families' right to opt out of a school site's established uniform policy without retaliation by actively informing students and parents/guardians of the aforementioned right; and, be it finally

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Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District will be provided an update with a framework for implementation in January 2020.

	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NOES</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Ms. Goldberg	X			
Ms. Gonez	X			
Dr. McKenna	X			
Mr. Melvoin	X			
Mr. Schmerelson	X			
Dr. Vladovic	X			
Ms. Garcia	X			
TOTAL	7			

ACTION: ADOPTED AS AMENDED