## 221. DRESS AND GROOMING

1. **Purpose**
   - Proper dress and grooming are marks of good citizenship and determine, in many cases, the behavior and attitude of a pupil. When attending school or school functions, a good citizen will wear properly fitted clothing that does not attract excess attention or reflect discredit upon the school.

   - Spring-Ford Area School District administration reserves the right to question any mode of dress/jewelry/hair style that is beyond current community/school accepted standards or in any manner jeopardizing to the health, welfare or safety of a student or other students.

   - Any clothing judged to be a disruptive influence in class, or interfering with the educational rights of others, is considered improper dress. Certain types of clothing and hairstyles may be required for physical education classes or for extracurricular activities such as band, athletics, etc.

   - The following are specifics to the Dress Code for Spring-Ford Area School District.

### SECTION I. GENERAL

1. Excessively baggy pants or clothing that can conceal items and/or pose a safety hazard are not permitted.

2. Undergarments should not be exposed in any way.

3. All dress and grooming should be appropriate. Students are expected to dress in accordance with good taste and personal pride. Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes, and their hair clean.

### SECTION II. TOPS

1. Tops may not be “low cut” or exposing. Bare midriffs and bare backs are not permitted.
2. The following are unacceptable school attire:
   a. Tank tops/muscle shirts.
   b. Spaghetti strap less than ½ inch/halter/mesh tops.
   c. See-through blouses or shirts.
   d. Tube tops/crop tops/half-shirts.

3. Any top that allows the midriff, cleavage or undergarments to be exposed is not permitted.

4. Coats, jackets or garments designed for protection from the outside weather are not to be worn in school.

SECTION III. PANTS/SHORTS/SKIRTS

1. Pants, shorts, skirts must be secured and worn no lower than the hip. Low riding/sag style is not permitted.

2. Boxer shorts worn as outerwear are not permitted.

3. Dresses, skirts, and/or shorts are to be fitted for both comfort and appearance, must be in good taste, and appropriate length. Appropriate length is defined as clothing that is not provocative or draws excessive attention.

SECTION IV. OFFENSIVE DRESS

1. Clothing, patches, buttons, pins, jewelry, back packs are not permitted if they:
   a. Have sexually suggestive writing/pictures.
   b. Advocate violence.
   c. Advertise or promote the use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
   d. Have double meaning wording or obscene language.

2. A tattoo (permanent or temporary) must be covered if it:
   a. Has sexually suggestive writing/pictures.
b. Advocates violence.

c. Advertises or promotes the use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.

d. Has double meaning wording or obscene language.

e. Slogans or symbols designed to be provocative or offensive to others.

SECTION V. FOOTWEAR

1. Some sort of shoe must be worn at all times.

2. Any shoe that poses a safety hazard is not permitted.

SECTION VI. JEWELRY

1. Spiked jewelry, chains or any jewelry that could cause injury or constitute a hazard is not permitted.

SECTION VII. HEAD WEAR

1. Hats, caps, bandanas, sunglasses, visors, and sweatbands are not permitted unless an accommodation is necessary.

SECTION VIII. HEALTH AND HYGIENE

1. Any apparel that is judged to be unhealthy or unsanitary (e.g., clothing that is dirty and/or gives off a foul odor) is not permitted.

2. Each student is expected to maintain good personal hygiene.

SECTION IX. DISCIPLINE

1. Students violating the Dress Code shall be subject to the following discipline:

   a. FIRST OFFENSE: At the building administrator’s discretion, the student will be retained in the office until student/professional/staff/parent/guardian provides a proper change of clothing.

   b. SECOND OFFENSE: At the building administrator’s discretion, the student will be retained in the office until student/professional/staff/parent/guardian provides a proper change of clothing. Parents/Guardians will be notified by phone and a detention will be issued.
c. THIRD OFFENSE: Student will be retained in the office until parent/guardian provides a proper change of clothing. In the event that a parent/guardian cannot be reached on the day of the violation, the parent/guardian may be asked to accompany the student to school to meet with the principal prior to his/her return to the classroom. Students may receive demerits which could result in further discipline. Parents/Guardians will be notified in writing.

The rules and procedures have been developed in respect to the Board Policy regarding student dress and grooming. However, solutions to situations not specifically covered are the responsibility of building level administrators. Appropriate decisions will be made based on the intent and spirit of Board Policy. Students and parents/guardians are expected to exercise careful judgment in the selection of appropriate attire for school.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1317.3

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.11

Board Policy – 325