



Peterborough Victoria  
Northumberland and Clarington  
Catholic District School Board

<b>BOARD POLICY</b>	
<i>Policy Section</i> <b>STUDENTS</b>	<i>Policy Number</i> <b>805</b>
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## **POLICY TITLE**

Dress Code - Students

### **1.0 PURPOSE**

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board is committed to appropriate dress for students through school dress codes.

Dress codes have long been a part of the tradition of Catholic secondary schools in Ontario and the PVNC Catholic District School Board. In keeping with the Ministry of Education guidelines and within the expectations of the Safe Schools Act, 2008, the PVNC Catholic District School Board shall establish a process that allows a majority of parents, through their local Catholic School Council, to decide on an appropriate dress policy in all schools.

The PVNC Catholic District School Board will continue to provide a distinctly Catholic, positive learning and working environment, that is safe and respectful of the needs and well-being of individuals, consistent with the mission of the PVNC Catholic District School Board, through the implementation of school dress codes.

### **2.0 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board that all schools adopt a student dress code that is consistent with the Board's philosophy, vision statement, and Catholic social teaching. All secondary schools shall have school dress code.

### **3.0 GUIDELINES**

3.1 All schools, in consultation with their Catholic School Councils, shall adopt an appropriate dress code for students which shall be in keeping with the Board's mission and vision and Catholic social teachings.

- 3.2 All school dress codes shall be in accordance with provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Education Act - Regulation 298, the Human Rights Code, all applicable Health and Safety regulations, the Board Purchasing Policy, and Fair Labour Practices.
- 3.3 Dress codes developed by each school shall identify appropriate clothing, which recognizes the uniqueness of individuals, acknowledges respect for self and others, and permits each student to actively and safely participate in the learning environment.
- 3.3 The criteria to be used in developing student dress codes shall include safety considerations, maintenance of proper decorum, modesty, cleanliness, neatness, and appropriateness in relation to the activity, in keeping with Catholic values.

#### 4.0 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

##### 4.1 APPROPRIATE DRESS

Appropriate dress is standard, clean and neat at all times – standards of acceptable dress for the school environment. These include acceptable standards for physical education, technology courses, and general safety throughout the school as determined by the principal (e.g.: All students must wear the appropriate footwear for each activity and shoes at all times. It is recommended that students' necklaces and neckwear should be constructed of breakaway material.). Appropriate dress may or may not mean a school dress code depending on what is decided at each school. Students are expected to dress appropriately on the way to and from school, during school hours, and while participating in Co-operative Education and Board-approved field trips. All secondary schools have a dress code. The elementary school dress code is articulated in each school's agenda book.

##### 4.2 DRESS CODE

Dress code is defined as the standard of student dress agreed upon by the school community and in accordance with the Education Act and Regulations. School agenda books will contain specific examples for reference. Dress code shall include the minimum standards of acceptable dress and grooming required by all students as determined by the principal (e.g. hair styles, length of shirts, pants, skirts, and kilts).

#### 4.3 INAPPROPRIATE

Inappropriate is defined as logos, sayings, slogans, gang affiliation, and pictures that address or display sexual content, substance abuse, violence, profanity, racial or gender discrimination, or discrimination of any kind, or that otherwise demeans an identifiable individual or group. Clothing must completely cover the abdomen and back and not be transparent. Footwear must be worn at all times.

#### 4.4 MANDATORY COMPLIANCE

Mandatory compliance is defined as the monitoring enforcement and consequences applied to all students to ensure compliance.

#### 4.5 VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE

Voluntary compliance is defined as an acceptance of the school uniform without the requirement for monitoring, enforcement, or consequences for non-compliance.

#### 4.6 MAJORITY

A majority is defined as 51% or greater.

### 5.0 REFERENCES/RELATED DOCUMENTS

Catechism of the Catholic Church  
Education Act, Regulation 298 (Requirements for Pupils) S.23 (1)(f)  
Safe Schools Act, 2000. Education Act S.302 (5)  
Health and Safety Regulations  
Human Rights Code  
Charter of Rights and Freedoms  
Ontario Regulation 612, School Councils  
Ontario Regulation 613

### 6.0 RELATED POLICIES

Policy 202, Fair Trade Purchasing for Student Clothing  
Policy 204, Purchasing  
Policy 601, Catholic School Councils  
Policy 706, Valuing Diversity  
Policy 801, Suspension of a Student

Policy 802, Safe Schools – Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive  
Student Behaviour  
Policy 804, School Codes of Conduct

**7.0 RELATED FORMS****8.0 APPROVED BY BOARD**

September 11, 2001

**9.0 EFFECTIVE DATE**

June 22, 2010

**10.0 POLICY REVIEW DATE**

June 2015

**11.0 REVIEW BY**

Superintendent of Schools and Learning Support Services