



**Morningside
Elementary**

**APS Required Agenda
Item:**

**OPTIONAL SCHOOL
UNIFORMS
9/18/24**

OPTIONAL SCHOOL UNIFORM

In the 2023-2024 school year, the APS Board of Education updated the district's dress code policy. As part of the update, starting with the 2025-2026 school year if a school wishes to **maintain or explore implementing** an optional school uniform, it **must** go through an engagement process and have a vote as outlined below:



ELEMENTARY

A school uniform is adopted upon the agreement of the principal and a majority vote of the School Governance Team (GO Team).



MIDDLE

School uniforms are adopted upon the agreement of the principal, GO Team and the elected student government. If the school does not have an elected student government, then a majority vote must be secured from the student body to adopt a school uniform.



HIGH

School uniforms are adopted upon the agreement of the principal, GO Team and the elected student government. If the school does not have an elected student government, then a majority vote must be secured from the student body to adopt a school uniform.

If your school currently has a school uniform and wishes to continue it, you must go through this process!

ABOE POLICY JCDB STUDENT DRESS CODE

(Last Revised, 06/03/2024)

<http://tinyAPS.com/?APSDressCodePolicy>

REQUIREMENTS

1. A top of non-see through fabric
2. A bottom of non-see through fabric
3. Shoes
4. Undergarments that are not visible

RESTRICTIONS

1. No words or symbols that are gang-related, sexually suggestive, obscene or promote illegal behavior
2. Nothing associated with alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco
3. No flip-flops, athletic slides or footwear that doesn't support the front and back of the foot

SCHOOL-SPECIFIC DRESS CODES

We have one districtwide student dress code adopted by the Atlanta Board of Education.

School-specific dress codes may not contradict Board policy.

Examples of problematic school specific dress-code provisions

“dress in good taste”

“no baggy pants”

“no sweatpants”

“no activewear”

“no short shorts or skirts”

“no spaghetti straps”

“no tube tops”

“no dresses”

“no tight/revealing clothing”

“no leggings”

“no joggers”

“no ‘extreme’ hairstyles or colors”

“no Crocs”

“all shirts must be tucked in”

“no hoodies/hooded jackets”

“hair should be clean and neatly groomed”

“no shirts which expose cleavage”

“students dressed in uniform are better perceived by teachers and peers”



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Schools may choose to adopt an optional school uniform.

Effective immediately, **at no time** will students have their instructional time interrupted or be barred from school or class for declining to wear the optional school uniform.

ESTABLISH AN OPTIONAL SCHOOL UNIFORM

If your school currently has a school uniform and wishes to continue it, you must go through this process!

The GO Team needs to **TAKE ACTION (vote)** on **maintaining or exploring implementing an optional school uniform.**

After the motion and a second, the GO Team may have additional discussion. Once discussion is concluded, the GO Team will vote.

If the GO Team votes to move forward, then the team should proceed to discuss the School Uniform Advisory Committee.

**TAKE
ACTION**

DISCUSSION

Only needed if the GO Team voted YES to maintaining or exploring establishing an optional school uniform.

The GO Team will now discuss if they wish to move forward with establishing a School Uniform Advisory Committee.

The School Uniform Advisory Committee will be responsible for:

- 1.** Develop a stakeholder engagement plan to receive feedback on implementing a uniform and its components, if adopted. Must include a minimum 20-day public comment period on any proposed uniform
- 2.** Recommending the optional school uniform components.
- 3.** Establishing the student voting timeline and process (*if necessary*).
- 4.** Determine the length of time the uniform will be in use before reconsideration
- 5.** Developing a communication plan to inform the school community about the optional school uniform, if the uniform is adopted
- 6.** Other objectives as defined by the GO Team.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Only needed if the GO Team voted YES to maintaining or exploring establishing an optional school uniform.

The GO Team will also need to determine who will be on the committee:

1. The GO Team Chair will name the Committee Chair.
2. No more than 2 additional GO Team members may be on the committee (a maximum of 3 GO Team Members).
3. Committee must have **at least 3 students** as outlined below:
4. Other committee members may be added, as determined by the GO Team.



ELEMENTARY

Elementary School with Ambassadors
Recommend inclusion of at least 3 student ambassadors

Elementary School without Ambassadors
Recommend inclusion of at least 3 students selected by the principal with GO Team input



MIDDLE

Middle School with Student Ambassadors
At least 3 student ambassadors

Middle School without Student Ambassadors
At least 3 students selected by the principal with GO Team input



HIGH

High School with Elected Student Government
At least 3 students as selected by the SGA

High School without Elected Student Government
At least 3 students as selected by the principal with GO Team input

ESTABLISH THE COMMITTEE

Only needed if the GO Team voted YES to maintaining or exploring establishing an optional school uniform.

The GO Team needs to **TAKE ACTION (vote)** on establishing its **School Uniform Advisory Committee** based on the previous discussion.

After the motion and a second, the GO Team may have additional discussion.

Once discussion is concluded, the GO Team will vote.

If the GO Team votes in the affirmative (yes) for moving forward, then the Chair will need to fill out a committee resolution form (*see example on next slide*) and send to the GO Team Office.

**TAKE
ACTION**

BLANK COMMITTEE RESOLUTION



Committee Establishment Resolution

The _____ GO Team shall have a School Uniform Committee Advisory Committee, consisting of the principal or his/her designee, designated chair, and additional members appointed by the GO Team (see back for list of members).

The committee chair shall attend all meetings of the committee. The Advisory Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity, offering assistance and making recommendations to the GO Team for action. The Advisory Committee shall not have the authority to act on behalf of the GO Team.

Meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be scheduled and publicly noticed by the committee chair. A written report of committee discussions shall be presented by the committee chair to the GO Team at the next scheduled GO Team meeting.

The proposed Advisory Committee has the following goals/objectives (add objectives, if necessary):

- a) Develop a stakeholder engagement plan to receive feedback on implementing a uniform and its components, if adopted. Must include a minimum 20-day public comment period on any proposed uniform
- b) Recommend the optional school uniform components
- c) Establish the student voting timeline and process (if necessary)
- d) Determine the length of time the uniform will be in use before reconsideration
- e) Create a communication plan to inform the school community about the optional school uniform, if the uniform is adopted

The proposed Advisory Committee will operate as an AD HOC COMMITTEE.

Expected Committee Time Frame: _____
(must be completed by last GO Team meeting of SY 24-25)

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|---|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Principal | Date | GO Team Chair | Date |
| _____ | _____ | Date Submitted to GO Team Office: _____ | |
| Advisory Committee Chair | Date | | |



School Uniform Committee Membership

You may have no more than 3 GO Team members (committee chair and 2 others) on the committee. For middle and high schools, there must be at least 3 student representatives.

For all other members, list the members of the committee below as voted on by the GO Team. Other than GO Team members, names can be provided as individuals are identified. For example, if the GO Team voted for the Committee to have 2 individuals with medical background, and a faith leader, list under Role: Medical, Medical, and Faith Leader.

| Role | Name | Email Address |
|-------|------|---------------|
| Chair | | |
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(add additional rows, if needed)

