

DATE: May 22, 2018

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Bridget Stirling

SUBJECT: Motion re: Edmonton Public Schools Student Dress Codes

REFERENCE: [HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct](#)
[AE.BP Welcoming, Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments](#)
[HFA.BP Sexual Orientation and Gender Identify](#)
[GGAB.BP Multicultural Education](#)
[Trustees' Handbook – Section 5.2.2 – Notices of Motion](#)

ISSUE

Notice of motion was served at the May 8, 2018, Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

Following the development and adoption of HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct and the associated administrative regulations, schools will be required to review their school codes of conduct to ensure this new policy is reflected. To support principals and school communities in the development and enforcement of school dress codes that may form part of school codes of conduct, this motion offers guidance on the development of those dress codes to ensure that they reflect the Board's expectations as set out in AE.BP Welcoming, Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments and associated policies, including HFA.BP Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and GGAB.BP Multicultural Education.

RELATED FACTS

Edmonton Public Schools is a District of choice with a diversity of programs and school communities. Schools develop student codes of conduct that reflect both their local community culture and the programs offered in the school, while respecting the principles established in Board policies and District administrative regulations. School codes of conduct may include dress codes and/or guidelines for school uniforms.

RECOMMENDATION

Be it moved that:

In keeping with the principles established in AE.BP Welcoming, Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments and HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct, school dress codes will not be gender specific and will respect the diversity of the student population. Dress codes should be focused on fostering a sense of belonging and a positive sense of self within a productive and safe learning environment.

District schools will communicate about and enforce dress codes equitably and with regard for students' right to fairness, dignity, and respect. Education and information about and enforcement of dress codes will not target students based on race, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, socioeconomic status or body type and size.

OPTIONS

1. Approve the recommendation.
2. Provide feedback and request changes to the recommendation for approval.

NEXT STEPS

Should the Board of Trustees approve the recommendation, District schools will communicate about and enforce dress codes equitably and with regard for students' right to fairness, dignity, and respect. Education and information about and enforcement of dress codes will not target students based on race, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, socioeconomic status or body type and size.

Additionally, any new school dress codes will be developed and existing codes will be updated to reflect the principles that dress codes will not be gender specific, will reflect the diversity of the student population and will foster a sense of belonging and positive sense of self within a productive and safe learning environment.

BS:km