

School Uniforms

What is the Elk Grove Unified School District's policy on uniforms?

Under board policy adopted in 1995, schools may require students to wear a uniform to school after surveying the school's community. The policy covers type of uniform, requirements for outer garments like coats, and optional articles to be covered like shoes and hats.

Why did the district adopt a uniform policy?

Experience from initial pilots has shown that uniforms help set a more academic tone at school. Parents also like school uniforms because they make it easier to dress children in the morning.

How does a school implement a uniform policy?

Schools first form a committee of parents and educators to survey parents and guardians. The first step is to poll the parents and guardians of students at the school. If support is high — there is no “magic number” to initiate the policy — the school notifies parents when the policy will take effect. Board policy requires that parents be given at least six months advance notice by U.S. mail and school newsletters.

What does that notice include?

In addition to stating when the policy takes effect, the notice tells parents/guardians of resources that are available to those needing financial assistance, and of procedures for exemptions.

What are the options for uniforms?

The base color for all uniforms in the district are navy blue and white, and schools may add additional colors based on community input. Schools may continue to use school colors for sweatshirts and T-shirts.

Why is the same uniform color used districtwide?

By offering the same colors at all the schools with a uniform policy, parents can move throughout the district without having to buy new wardrobes for their children at each new school. The consistent colors also accommodate students who are moved to other schools because of crowding. Navy blue and white uniforms are also easily found in area stores.

What about families in financial need?

Schools set up clothes closets to recycle clothes, solicit donations of uniforms, and make other arrangements to help families.

Are uniforms cost-effective?

Yes. Many vendors throughout the community offer school uniforms at an affordable price. A wardrobe for a boy or a girls runs between \$65 and \$95 per school year.

Which schools currently have uniforms?

Raymond Case, Elliott Ranch, Florin, Samuel Kennedy, Anna Kirchgater, Charles Mack, Barbara Comstock Morse, Prairie, Joseph Sims and Stone Lake elementary schools.

Can my child be exempted from wearing uniforms?

Yes. Parents/guardians who want their children exempted from the policy will need to fill out an Application for Exemption from Uniform Program, available at the school office, return it to the school, and attend a conference with the principal to review the application and discuss alternatives.