

StudentsBody-Piercing Jewelry and Body Art

The Board of Education has determined that it is inappropriate for students to wear excessive body-piercing jewelry at school. The Board has made the following findings: the presence of body-piercing is can be distracting to students and disruptive to the educational environment; the practice of body-piercing poses a health risk and a continuing danger to students; students are susceptible to the influence of peers and role models; and it is appropriate for the school to discourage the practice of body-piercing, because some students engage in self -piercing, thus increasing the danger of injury and infection.

Students shall not be permitted to wear excessive body-piercing jewelry while at school or during a school function on or off school premises. A student who is observed wearing prohibited jewelry at school shall be required to remove it. If the student refuses to comply with the directive, or violates the policy on a repeated basis, he or she shall be subject to such consequences as are determined to be appropriate by the building principal(s) in light of the particular situation. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension and expulsion.

Reasonable piercing of the ears and small piercings of the nose by both males and females has become a generally accepted practice in society and a practice which typically does not disrupt the educational environment or pose the health-related risks of other forms of body-piercing. This policy does not prohibit the adornment of the ears or nose with reasonable jewelry, other types of attachments connected to the ear by piercing or clasping or piercing motivated by legitimate religious practices. However, if the administration determines that the presence of jewelry creates a distraction to the educational process, the student will be required to remove the jewelry while at school.

The Board finds that tattoos are also inappropriate for the same reasons set forth above regarding body-piercing. Students with tattoos shall be required to keep them covered at all times when they are at school or at a school function. If a student refuses a directive to cover a tattoo, or violates the policy on a repeated basis, he or she shall be subject to such consequences as are determined to be appropriate by the building principal(s) based on the particular situation. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension and expulsion.

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Revised: July 16 2012