

# School Board of Brevard County

2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way • Viera, FL 32940-6601

Brian T. Binggeli, Ed.D., Superintendent



August 5, 2011

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As you may already be aware, Governor Scott signed into law, effective July 1, 2011, changes to s. 1006.07 and 1006.15, Florida Statutes. These changes relate to school district student codes of conduct, specifically to additional dress code requirements and consequences for violation of the additional requirements. In addition, the law includes student adherence to the dress code as a condition for participation in inter and intrascholastic and other extracurricular activities.

New school board requirements in s. 1006.07 and s. 1006.15 include developing policy “that prohibits students, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.” (s. 1006.07). Additionally, the law provides specific penalties for students who violate this section of the dress code. The penalties including the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Student given verbal warning and the school principal shall call the student’s parent or guardian;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 5 days and the principal shall meet with the student’s parent or guardian;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offenses: Student shall receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal shall call the student’s parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a letter regarding the student’s in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities. [s. 1006.07(2)(c)]

Finally, s.1006.15 provides for students to maintain satisfactory conduct, “including adherence to appropriate dress and other codes of student conduct policies” in order to participate in inter and intrascholastic extracurricular student activities.

The School Board of Brevard County already has comprehensive policy and administrative procedure regarding student conduct (policy 5500) and dress and grooming (administrative procedure 5511) which will not be affected by the new law. The new law provides additions to the existing policies and procedures. Under state law, the school board cannot override the consequences for violation of the new law. Over the next few months, we will be developing recommended policy changes to present to the School Board that reflect the new law for inclusion in the Student Code of Conduct policy, Dress and Grooming administrative procedure, and student handbooks. In the meantime, the new law must be implemented at the start of the 2011-2012 school year. Parents, please take a moment to go over the new dress code requirements in this letter with your child.

Please contact your child’s school with any questions.

Sincerely,

Beth Thedy, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent  
Student Services and Exceptional Education

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