

The Unfairness of Dress Code

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Some students have had dress code since they have been in school. Some students have never had dress code. For some families this is a change, especially for the ones who have to pay for uniforms. Even though uniforms are necessary, you still have to pay for uniforms and some families may not have the money to buy the uniforms they need. Why should we buy uniforms just for one year and never wear it again? That's just a waste of money. We should have the freedom to dress the way we want without getting a punishment. We shouldn't be corrected for wearing what we want. We are here to learn, not to look professional. We should have the freedom to express ourselves. These are just some reasons why students disagree with the dress code.

To learn more about the dress code, we are interviewing Ms. Torres, the assistant principal. But first, let me mention a few consequences we get if we don't have the proper dress code: changing into P.E clothes, warning, detention, Saturday school, being sent home, or staying in the office. She deals with dress code on a daily basis. We decided to ask Ms. Torres how she feels about the dress code, if it's fair, and why it's important. When Ms. Torres hears the words dress code, she explains it makes her angry because she thinks kids should have the ability to dress how they want. We asked her if she thinks dress code is fair and she responded with "it helps with families finances." She proceeds with saying that it is better to buy a couple uniforms then buy other clothes for their child. But if you buy three shirts, that is about 35 dollars. At other stores, you can buy more than three shirts with 35 dollars. Some people only need uniforms for the year or the years they are at that school and you only use the uniform when you are at school. You will not use your uniform after that and if you paid 35 dollars then it kind of seems like you wasted it. We shouldn't spend on clothes. Instead, parents should spend money on more important things that we really need like food, water, and rent. Ms. Torres explains that dress code is important because it helps kids that may dress in a different way fit in. It also helps kids coming to school and getting out of school to be safe. You see, there is nothing on the uniform that may offend or hurt anyone, most people anyway. We also asked about the teachers and their dress code, if they even have one. She explains that they do not have a dress code that is written on paper but, they do have rules they have to follow with what they wear everyday. If we have to wear the uniform everyday, why don't the teachers have to? Yes, they're adults but that shouldn't matter because it's not fair for us not to have any freedom in what we wear, yet they get to wear almost anything they want.

We also decided to interview some of our fellow classmates and ask what they might think of the dresscode they have to follow and the uniforms they have to wear everyday. We asked them if they thought dress code is fair and what they may think when they hear the word

dress code. They responded with they don't think dress code is fair. They think it is not fair because they want the ability to dress how they want whenever they want. When they hear the word dress code, they think that there needs to be more leeway in the dress code. Another question we asked the students is why do they think dress code is needed. They explained that they think it is so we do not wear any negative or inappropriate clothing.

In conclusion, we believe that dress code is unfair and by interviewing others we can say we are not the only ones that may think this way. In our opinion, we think the school should give us more independence in our choices of wear. We hope that people can see where all of this is coming from. We would not say to change the dress code completely, but at least give us more choices in the uniform. All we have is three colors for 8th graders and only two colors for 6th and 7th graders. Which is not a lot of choices. We hope by reading this it can help turn a new leaf.