UNIFORM POLICY

SECTION 1. BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

MISSION

The mission of Ben Franklin Academy is to develop young adults with character like America's founding Renaissance man, Benjamin Franklin: well-read, scientifically curious, and civically engaged.

VISION

Our students will excel academically through a challenging, sequenced curriculum that emphasizes math, science, the arts, and literacy. We will be a data-driven institution, focusing on individual students. Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school. Finally, we recognize that an education is incomplete without fostering social emotional development, character, sports, and nature.

PURPOSE

The learning environment can be influenced by students' attire. The purpose of the Ben Franklin Academy (BFA) Uniform Policy is to promote learning by reducing distractions, disruptions, and disciplinary problems. The policy also promotes students' pride in themselves and their school. This policy is intended to promote uniformity of dress. Students are required to adhere to these standards.

SECTION 2. GROOMING AND GENERAL GUIDELINES

Students are required to arrive at school properly and neatly attired. Uniforms are mandatory and should be worn as the manufacturer intended. Uniforms must be purchased from Educational Outfitters (Educational Outfitters), French Toast (French Toast: Kids School Uniforms), and/or Tommy Hilfiger (Tommy Hilfiger school uniforms). The acceptable school uniform can be found by reviewing the Ben Franklin Academy Uniform Standards for All Students. Clothing which is oversized, undersized, excessively baggy, tight, or revealing is not acceptable. Uniforms are required to be in good repair. Under no circumstances may students write on, cut up, deface, or add to their uniforms.

Hair

Boys' and girls' hair shall be neatly groomed, clean, and a natural color. Hair tinsel, unusual, and unnatural hair colors are not permitted (e.g., pink, green, blue, bleached). Both eyes shall be clear at all times. Distracting styles are not permitted, including mohawks and shaved patterns or words. Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the earlobe.

Hats

At no time will hats, caps, bandanas, or visors be permitted for either boys or girls inside the building.

Jewelry

Jewelry and accessories are acceptable as long as they are simple and not distracting to the learning environment. Girls may wear one (1) post or small (1/2") hoop per ear, without dangles or charms. Girls or

boys may wear one (1) each of the following items: simple necklace (not large or bulky), bracelet, ring, or watch.

Boys shall not wear earrings.

Makeup
For sixth graders and beyond, girls ONLY may wear lightly applied mascara (brown or black), blush (pale neutral or pale pink), and lip gloss (clear or pale pink).

Boys shall not wear makeup.

Body Art
At no time shall body art of any kind be allowed on the face, hands, arms, legs, or any other exposed skin. Exposed body parts shall not be pierced, except as allowed for girls' earrings (see Jewelry above).

Pants, Shorts, and Belts
Pants and shorts must fit properly, shall not ride lower than the natural waistline, fit neither too loose nor too tight, and not be visibly flared. Pants must be no longer than the sole of the shoe, and no shorter than 2" above the ankle bone. Pants and shorts require an approved belt for grades three (3) and above. Leggings worn as pants are not acceptable.

Skirts and Skorts
Skirts and skorts must fit properly, be worn at the natural waistline, fit neither too loose nor too tight, and not be shorter than four (4) inches above the top of the knee. Appropriately colored tights, leggings, and bike shorts may be worn underneath skirts and skorts.

Shirts
Collared shirts shall always be worn, even when sweatshirts, sweaters, and jumpers are also worn. Undershirts and collared shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Shoes
Shoes must be closed toe with a closed heel. Students may not wear crocs, flip-flops, wheelies, cleats, light up shoes, or shoes with a higher heel than one inch. Matching, single-color laces must be tied in a traditional manner. Multicolored laces are not allowed. Shoes must meet the uniform standard on all school days. Please refer to the Ben Franklin Academy Uniform Standards for All Students for additional guidelines. If the administration determines a shoe to be a distraction, the student and parent will be informed and that shoe will not be permitted at school.

Socks
Socks must be white, navy, red, tan, gray, or black and match each other. Small brand logos or single-color stripes in red, white, navy, tan, gray or black are permissible.

Outerwear
Snow boots may be worn to school or during recess in inclement weather. Please refer to the Uniform Table for specifics on footwear. All sweaters and sweatshirts must display the BFA logo while worn in the building and on field trips. These can be purchased through Educational Outfitters, French Toast, Tommy Hilfiger, and

the BFA Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

SECTION 3. EXCEPTIONS

School athletic jerseys, student organization, and organizational uniforms such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts uniforms may be worn in place of, or in addition to, the BFA Uniform on specified days, including Spirit Days. Sleeveless jerseys require a coordinating t-shirt underneath. An approved uniform bottom should be worn with these exceptions.

The principal and/or coach may communicate different items to be worn for competitions or other social events.

Temporary exceptions to the clothing requirements of this Policy also may be granted by the Principal for hardship, as an individual reward, based on family circumstance (i.e., funeral), for medical or religious reasons, or as part of the Dress of Choice day. Exceptions to the clothing requirements of this Policy shall not include exceptions to the student grooming standards set forth herein, unless expressly authorized by the Principal. Upon request, reasonable accommodations to this Policy shall be made by the Principal for students with disabilities or religious convictions which conflict with the code.

SECTION 4. DRESS OF CHOICE

Dress of Choice days (DOC) shall be scheduled periodically as a reward for those students who have not received two (2) Uniform Policy Violations between the previous DOC day and the upcoming DOC day. Clothes worn by all students during the DOC days shall be modest, in good condition, neat in appearance, and meet appropriate length requirements. Students are not allowed to wear pajama items or clothing that contains wording or images that could be interpreted as racial, vulgar, disruptive or offensive in any way. Revealing clothes are not acceptable (e.g., tank tops, midriffs, sleeveless, etc.). The final decision as to the suitability of DOC clothing will be up to the Principal.

SECTION 5. SPIRIT DAYS

On Spirit Days, students can wear spirit wear provided by the PTO along with the rest of the school uniform. These items include t-shirts with the official BFA logo. For example, on a Spirit Day, a student may wear a t-shirt purchased through the PTO along with an approved pair of pants, shorts, skirt, or skort. Other Spirit Wear includes t-shirts or sweatshirts purchased while playing a BFA sport or a BFA Field Day shirt. Spirit Days shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Principal.

SECTION 6. FORMAL UNIFORM/FIELD TRIP UNIFORM

The first day of the school year and the first Wednesday of every month are Formal Uniform days. Other days throughout the school year may be designated as Formal Uniform days as determined by the Principal. Students and families will be notified ahead of time. All field trips will require the Formal Uniform unless an exception is granted by the Principal.

The Formal Uniform for Boys and Girls is: navy blue short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt with the red BFA logo and tan pants, skort, shorts, or skirt. A navy blue BFA sweater, sweatshirt, vest, or hoodie (for grades 6 - 8) with the red BFA logo may be worn over the formal uniform at any time.

SECTION 7. PICTURES

Pictures taken at BFA Family Check In are used for the yearbooks and must follow this Uniform Policy and grooming standards.

SECTION 8. UNIFORM STANDARDS

The Ben Franklin Academy Uniform Standards for All Students document posted on BFA's website (www.bfacademy.org) is incorporated herein by reference and shall be used as a guide for all uniform decisions.

SECTION 9. UNIFORM VIOLATIONS

Uniform violations shall be subjected to discipline as per the Student Discipline Policy.

Reviewed and Approved by the Board: 09/16/2025
Reviewed and Approved by the Board: 09/17/2024
Reviewed and Approved by the Board: 03/27/2023
Reviewed and Approved by the Board: 01/18/2022
Reviewed and Approved by the Board: 08/18/2026
Accessibility: 09/14/2026 To comply with the Colorado Accessibility Law (HB 21-1110), all policy links direct you to the BFA Policy webpage, where you can find and view the applicable information.