

Comments from Handbook Survey by Question

1. Students should be allowed to wear hats in school.

- I am a firm believer that students should be allowed to wear hats....
- It seems to me that if security is the issue, those students causing trouble will likely don their hats or hoods before causing mischief- they know the cameras are out there. All we'll succeed in doing is penalizing the "good kids" for what the trouble-makers will end up doing anyway. Noble is about individuality and trust of students. I've never had a problem with hoods or hats in class, and if I did I would deal with it there. It is unlikely that staff will consistently address it in the hallways- when I'm on the move, I don't have time to battle with a kid I don't know about a hat or hood. It will become another policy we don't enforce consistently and it will backfire. Let's choose our battles wisely, this is not a worthwhile one. As I said before, if someone is going to cause mischief, they'll find a way to circumvent a hat rule in the process.
- if it is a security issue in the hall then perhaps not
- I agree they should have the choice, but if they are interfering with identification on camera, then no - safety should come first.
- I don't have a problem with hats in school
- I prefer to stay focused on teaching and learning, not whether or not kids are wearing hats.
- Security issue, politeness.
- It doesn't impact the students ability to succeed academically.
- It is so important that we choose the battles that are truly important. A major change to this policy would change the culture of NHS; I'm not so sure we're accurately identifying how it would change. I think for the negative.
- I have no problem letting students wear hats; but if it is a security issue I can easily change to a no hats policy.
- Haven't we got bigger problems?
- It's cold all year in House II
- It is cold here, so that is my only reason in saying yes. Winter hats are actually legitimate when the average temperature outside and inside is so low.
- it's a cultural style learned at home.
- hats are part of our culture. they wear them at home and so do their parent. Not worth the battle
- Caps are often seen as part of a student's identity.
- I don't have a problem with this unless it is a major security concern. It would be tough to enforce.
- Hats are important tools of self-expression for many kids.
- Not worth fighting over
- School does get cold in my wing, I think for warmt it is acceptable (perhaps non brim hats)
- sure, it's part of their identity
- hats are OK
- Not a battle I want to fight. This will not be easily enforced and I have more important things that I am concerned with.
- Hats are no longer considered disrespectful in a building by most. The major issue I've been told is the use of hats as concealment, however no one can tell me how many instances the hat alone has made identification impossible. The types of hats, and the way they are worn, should help to identify a perp. when not covered by a hood. We all know a student who is going to attempt concealment is going to take their hat out of their back pocket, cover it with their hood, commit a crime or break the rules and then remove both. Banning hats is not going to stop the determined troublemakers. Get rid of hoodies, and the bad kids will be manageable. We have many students and some staff that feel more comfortable wearing a hat. The building is cold in many rooms and a hat helps to reduce heat loss. Don't punish everyone for a small group of hoodie

wearing criminals (ie the leeb city crew). We have overall a great group of kids who are gonna take in the neck for these few clowns.

- Too hard to enforce in halls
- I think this response applies to most of the questions on this survey. We need to remember that we are a Coalition School. Although it may be administratively convenient to make clothing, etc. more restrictive, such rules do not guarantee improved behavior. We need to engage students and make sure that they are a part of this decision making process. It is important to remind ourselves of our mission statement and be mindful of honoring the voices of all.
- This comment applies to all items in this survey. We need to choose our battles with this needy population of students. We have much bigger fish to fry than to have to enforce rules eliminating what are, for the most part, benign practices. Setting further limits on hats, hoods, food, drink and overall dress code will turn us into appearance police, will give kids more to push against and will distract from the true business of our school. Also please, please, please allow the Coalition Principles to live and breathe at Noble High School. Student voice needs to be heard on these matters before new policy is put into place.

2. Students should be allowed to wear hats and hoods.

- No hoods but hats
- See my comment for #1.
- hoodies are an article of clothing teens will wear - sometimes the only warm thing they will wear. I do not agree with hoods up.
- See comment above.
- Hats are fine but I don't think there is a need to wear a hood during the school day. It's cold in the building but not that cold!
- This small amount of freedom goes a long ways toward students feeling as if they have some freedom and voice.
- Security issue, politeness.
- Presents a very non-academic attitude.
- Again, pick your battles!
- Haven't we got bigger problems?
- As long as the hoods are not covering the head but used as a part of the shirt like a collar.
- Again, it's cold. Otherwise, I don't think there's a problem with not allowing it.
- Hoods-up just aren't necessary.
- Some kids find a sense of safety behind a hood on a bad day. i use it as a measure of where some students seem to be emotionally.
- How many safety concerns can we really narrow down to hats?
- Hoods are a different story.
- Again the chill is a factor
- I think wearing the hood to cover their face is an issue.
- Hoods should remain down for identification in the cameras in the halls. In the classroom should be left up to the teacher.
- no hoods
- NO HOODS
- There is a difference between hats and hoods. I honestly believe students will see the reason with hoods but hats are such a part of fashion and todays culture (given that many parents wear hats) it will be very difficult to enforce no hats. I believe we need to choose our battles - ones we can fight now.
- Get rid of the hoodies completely.
- Kids who want to hide will hide when necessary and comply when confronted.
- I don't think hoods are appropriate. Students wearing hoods seem to be avoiding something...paying attention, participating, etc.

3. Students should be allowed to have hoods over their heads in the building.
 - No hoods up in the building, outside in the colder months I think should be OK
 - See my comment for #1. Is this repeating of questions intentional?
 - No need.
 - I guess if we decide to run a monastery instead of a school....
 - Enforcement would be a unmanageable nightmare.
 - Again, it's cold, though I'm not a huge supporter of kids trying to hide themselves, if that's the intent.
 - I understand that wearing a hood would conceal a student's identity.
 - This seems too much of a security concern, and unnecessary.
 - I understand the hood thing more than the hat thing.
 - Not healthy.
 - No
 - I think wearing the hood to cover their face is an issue.
 - No...see comment 2. But in classrooms, it should be okay
 - hoods do not need to be worn during school
 - hard to enforce

4. Students should be allowed to eat food during class.
 - Only on monday
 - I believe this is teacher choice. How do we teach our students to be responsible if we remove the opportunity to teach responsibility. If kids come with food (not late, and don't leave during class to get it), and if they clean up after themselves, then they can have food. If they can't be responsible about it, then I remove the privilege and encourage other students to hold each other accountable. If all staff aren't capable of this type of classroom management, that's unfortunate, but it's working in many places. Again, why are we thinking of penalizing many for the few. This is would not be the Noble I chose to come work at.
 - Some kids don't get to eat except at school and don't have free blocks
 - Teacher's discretion.
 - I think there is enough "other" time for kids to eat. They have lunch time. Breakfast before school is a luxury and they should arrive in time to eat it if they need to.
 - However, as a science teacher I think it should be clear that they can not eat during a lab...I also think whether or not they eat could be a teacher decision
 - small food items, granola bar, crackers etc, something quick
 - I believe this should be at teacher discretion based on what is going on in class and how well kids clean up.
 - Up to the point that it is disruptive.
 - should be at teacher discretion
 - Is it causing a problem? If yes, address it in the classroom. Making a rigid set of rules does not allow teachers to manage their classrooms. It seems like the rule police are getting too much voice.
 - Should be room teacher call.
 - should be left up to the teacher and the work done in class.
 - safety concern and cleanliness concern esp. in science rooms and the pod
 - At teacher's discretion
 - I think it should be up to teacher's discretion. Some kids have tight schedules. As long as students pick up after themselves, I don't see it as a problem.
 - As long as they are working productively I have no problem with them having food in my class.
 - on occasion, especially if needed for a health reason
 - When appropriate

- This should be allowed with teacher permission.
 - As a science teacher I have a problem with this, and it also takes valuable class time.
 - Teachers should decide for their own classes
 - As long as it does not distract from work and they clean up.
 - Students should not be able to leave class to get food, but if they have food in class they can eat it. The teacher's discretion should be used to set rules for eating in class.
 - No, unless special circumstances warrants it: Late bus, cafe was closed before 1st block.
 - I think this should be up to individual teachers. There is no reason that I can't monitor what goes on in my class. Some students have circumstances that makes it necessary for them to eat in my classroom. I often have to eat during class, and I don't want to enforce a rule that will single out some students or that I will not follow myself.
 - Anything that will help them focus. Set expectations for your class and be consistent.
 - eating is part of being physically prepared to learn.
 - Yes - if it is OK with the teacher. I, personally, have never had an issue with students eating/cleaning up after themselves and I know I have a very hard time paying attention when I'm hungry.
 - This should be left up to the teacher.
5. Students should be allowed to eat food in class for special occasions only.
- Some kids don't get to eat except at school and don't have free blocks
 - Up to the teacher.
 - The breakfast and lunch some of our students eat here at school is important to them being ready to learn.
 - Kids need to eat breakfast, unfortunately many don't before they arrive at school...I advise my block 1 students at the beginning of the year to make an effort to do so.
 - If we answer no to this I'm out of here! Why would I earn less money to work in a prison?
 - Should be room teacher call.
6. Students should never be allowed to eat food in class.
- Some kids don't get to eat except at school and don't have free blocks
 - I'm hungry all the time.
 - Should be room teacher call.
 - Teachers should decide this issue individually.
 - OK for certain special occasions - but not in a science room.
 - I don't understand why eating in class is such a big deal. It is ban it in your classroom only.
 - This should be left up the teacher
 - many students don't eat at home.
 - up to individual teachers
 - It should be allowed whenever appropriate with teacher permission.
 - Unless a safety concern (science lab) if its ok with the teacher kids should be able to eat in class.
 - Teacher discretion
 - sure, for parties, etc.
 - This should be left up to the teacher
7. Student should be allowed to wear sunglasses in school.
- See my comment for #1, but substitute "sunglasses" for hats or hoods.
 - No need for sunglasses.
 - They don't need to wear sunglasses in school. It's okay in the halls or at lunch but doesn't belong in the class room/
 - Unless there is a medical reason there is just no need.

- 2 types of people wear sunglasses indoors: the blind, and jerks.
- Not in my class. Let the teacher make the call.
- promotes a "high" culture where kids can hide behind their sunglasses See Marshwood for a great example of this student practice
- I think only for medical reasons. I don't see another purpose for allowing it.
- eye to eye contact is important in polite society. We should continue teaching that habit.
- they are used to hide stoned eyes
- Unnecessary and security concern.
- Unless it is for medical purposes
- There is no reason to wear sunglasses inside.
- No, only in California
- WHY WOULD THEY NEED TO?
- no need for sun glasses
- serves no purpose other than to hide.
- There is no need of it.

8. Students should be allowed to bring drinks to class.

- As long as they're not late and manage it appropriately (see my comment about food).
- WATER is necessary on the second floor on hot days
- long time to go without fluids
- Teacher's discretion and subject to being checked.
- We're all thirsty. It's okay.
- The only thing I would limit is energy drinks...they are dangerous to students' health
- If the teacher allows it
- Thirst is normal.
- Water only.
- Especially water, too many kids have headaches block 4 because they don't drink enough throughout the day.
- Should be room teacher call.
- Water only - will not stain carpets or leave sticky residue if spilled.
- -at teachers discretion
- Again, at the teacher's discretion. Kids can deal with different rules on this for different rooms.
- I think water should always be available to students, but it's hard to really monitor what they are bringing in.
- it does not contribute to their health
- water, juice
- With teacher permission.
- This is OK with me unless there is a lab - although the mess is annoying.
- Only water
- Bottled water only
- Only water
- no drinks should be allowed from outside the building, such as dunkin donuts, aroma joes, etc
- AS LONG AS IT'S IN A CLEAR CONTAINER
- I disagree when around technology.
- Never seen a meeting where teachers didn't bring liquid.
- Yes - healthy ones.
- left up to teacher

9. Students should only be allowed to bring water to class.

- It is important to be well hydrated!
- long time to go without fluids

- Teacher's discretion and with caveat that they can be checked.
- If we are only going to allow water then we should only sell water.
- Coffee isn't water.
- Should be room teacher call.
- This would be a good idea.
- Again, as long as they are working productively I have no problem with them having food/beverage in my classroom
- Tough to enforce, and unnecessary
- They should be able to drink in class.
- Too many calls for spill clean up interrupting classes
- yup
- water, juice or milk
- Slippery slope. What about Vitamin water? How is this different from Gatorade? How is tht different from an energy drink? Again, not a battle I want to fight. I drink coffee and soda in my room - why can't students? We should do a better job educating students on the health issues with the energy drinks rather than outright banning students from bringing them to school. There are better ways of dealing with this.
- We could ban those unhealthy energy drinks and soda, or anything not sold in the cafe. No reason to get uptight about healthy drink options.
- we should only sell what we want kids drinking.
- I like that - it promotes a healthy habit and would cut down on hyperactivity caused by sugar/coffee.
- The same policy should hold regarding what gets put in the vending machines.

10 The current student dress code is adequate.

- It may help us to clarify some of our meaning with pictures of what is and is not acceptable, posted in each community. I saw this done in some other school once. It was very clear what was and was not appropriate. Hard for a student to argue about clothing if there is a picture to point at.
- not enforced
- too ambiguous
- The current dress code could use some improvement.
- What we have is fine as long as it is enforced consistently
- Inasmuch as it includes a ban on hats if we choose to enforce, it's fine.
- Not specific enough.
- It is up to all staff - including administration to speak with students about the appropriateness of their clothing when they break the dress code!
- Enforcement is the key to any "code".
- too much showing for females
- -if universally enforced by all staff memebers; there should be no reason I see a student in violation of the dress code in the middle of the day, there is no way they made it this far into the day without being talked to, this code needs be enforced by all staff so certain members don't have to become the "bad guy"
- It is extremely subjective and hard to enforce as a result. I feel that the guidelines should be much more clear. Also, many staff members shy away from enforcing it, and this is a concern as well.
- I think the dress code is fine the way it is, however, I feel that all staff need to be on the same page in regard to holding students accountable to the dress code.
- provocative clotng is a huge problem - cleavage is constantly on display. The consequences are too weak.

- WE do not enforce the current dress code. I'm much more concerned about sexually explicit clothing
- The code is adequate but enforcement is inconsistent.
- Lack of enforcement is a big problem, but specifics would also help.
- It just needs to be enforced.
- Boys with underwear hanging out.
- if it were enforced
- "If the dress code was actually enforced it would be adequate. "
- Adequate, yes, but never enforced.
- Dress code should be enforced I believe we let a lot go
- Teacher enforcement is not however. Same goes for the public display of affection. We need to crack down on teachers, not the rulebook.
- enforcement is inadequate!
- It's very difficult to enforce.

11. The student dress code should be more detailed and more restrictive.

- More detailed
- I agree on the detailed (see my comment for #10). I'm not sure what is meant by more restrictive, so I cannot comment on that part.
- clear expectation for enforcement are more important than a stricter code
- With warmer weather coming we need to get a handle on the tiny tops (and short shorts) enjoyed by some. Also, how about those inappropriate t-shirts that seem to be invisible to many. We ALL need to be alert to these.
- I think it needs to be more clearly explained to the students.
- This is about enforcement: teachers are lazy and don't enforce what we have, so why expect them to enforce MORE rules?
- should be more detailed but not more restrictive
- Students are not prepared to enter the business world with the clothing choices they are allowed to wear here.
- Enforce what we have! One last general comment, why such a focus on the superficial issues when so many of our students fail one or more classes???
- I'm shocked at this survey. It seems like there are discussions here that are attempting to tear down the very framework that made Noble what it is.
- The more our school "looks " like every other school, the more we can expect poor student behavior like in most other schools.
- It is not that it is not detailed and restrictive, it is that it is not enforced consistently.
- shirts, no strapless tops, no bras showing, short shorts or short skirts,
- The language should be clearer so that it is easier to enforce. Also not be seemingly different team to team.
- Students and teachers need clearer guidelines so that confusion can be avoided.
- I have girls I have spoken to every single day. All year long. The current process is too weak.
- There is way too much skin!
- It should also actually be enforced.
- No, just enforce the one we have
- boys or girls should not be allowed to wear tank tops in school
- I think that the dress code needs to be more well enforced, and possibly more detailed. However, this is again a battle that will take more energy than it is worth.
- Staff and faculty need to be aware of modeling. I've seen attire on staff that I wouldn't want to see on students.
- adequate as stated