



Halloween Costume guidelines - What Not to Wear

School District 22 – (Vernon) reminds students to keep it fun, not offensive

Halloween is just around the corner and many schools throughout **School District 22 – (Vernon)** will be hosting activities, costume parades and extra-curricular events.

It is also an opportune time to remind parents and students about inappropriate costume wear and that sometimes, even with good intent, or without even fully realizing it, people wear costumes that can make others feel upset, insulted or humiliated.

While the District does not have an official policy regarding Halloween costumes, they ask that everyone be respectful and that costumes should not cross the line that might promote sexism, racism, or appropriating culture.

Here are some guidelines to consider when selecting costumes that will be worn at school:

- Students need to be identifiable and visible to ensure safety.
- Costumes that are provocative, revealing, sexual in nature or employ questionable props will not be permitted on school grounds.
- Costumes that depict violence, alcohol or drugs are not appropriate. Fake weapons should not be brought to school.
- Costumes that could be offensive or perpetuate a stereotype of someone's culture, gender, heritage, or religion are not permitted. A resource to help better clarify this concern is the #IAmNotACostume Campaign which can be found at:
<http://www.lspirg.org/costumes>

Another important reminder for older students that attend schools with younger grades, it is everyone's responsibility to create a safe environment for all students and to set a good example and think about how costume choice may impact others in the building.

With so many creative minds at work, there are a limitless number of costumes that don't offend, so why not pick one of those this year!

Happy Halloween and safe trick-or-treating.