

Dress Code

Santa Cruz Sentinel

112th Year—No. 160

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 9, 1968

10 Cents

20 Pages

SC School Dress Code Bans Beards, Curbs Hair Length

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Santa Cruz City Schools trustees gave their general approval to a code of dress and grooming for district students last night after agreeing on two conservative alternates to individual rules.

Up for discussion were alternates to rules (1) Boys' hair shall be clean and neatly groomed, and (2) Boys shall be neatly shaven.

As an alternative to the general language of the first rule, board members decided to spell out the acceptable length of boys' hair by agreeing on a rule which reads, "Hair will be neatly trimmed and properly groomed. Hair may not hang over the eyebrows or over the top of the

ears. Hair may not be longer than the top of the collar of a normal dress shirt. Sideburns may extend to the bottom of the ear."

It had been determined that the "boys shall be neatly shaven" rule would allow students to grow beards, so long as the remainder by the facial area were clean. Trustees opted to lop off all beards by adopting the alternate "Boys shall be cleanly shaven. Mustaches are permissible."

New board member Roger Gintert said, "I don't think Alternate B (regarding hair) is restrictive enough, but it's all we have."

Trustee Charles Smith, added, "I'm just old fogey enough that I don't like to see these pants skirts girls

wear. I'd like to see them wear decent-length skirts and be girls and not wear these shorts.

"I was frankly embarrassed by a couple of those chicks who sat in the front row at that meeting at Santa Cruz High School. Their skirts were higher than their hips."

Trustee John Melendy thought the code should remain flexible enough to adopt to changing styles in a modern society.

"Times do change," agreed Trustee Keith Shaffer. To Dr. Smith, he said, "I didn't think I'd ever accept the bikini, Doctor. But now that I'm living on the beach, I find them quite interesting. But school is a different place."

Melendy noted that the dress code still was a more liberal guide than that by which he was rearing his own children, but he thought his own views shouldn't be imposed on all students.

The trustees present—Eli Bartieau and Eugene Adams were absent—were unanimous in their acceptance of the conservative alternates to the code.

The code now reads:

1. Students dress shall be clean, modest and comply with safety regulations.
2. Dress that is disruptive of the educational process, public performances, competitive activities, and other extra-curricular functions may be prohibited by the ad-

(Continued on Page 2)

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