## Review the revised essay below. Revisions are highlighted in red. For each revision, note why this revision has had a positive impact on the support and evidence for this essay.

## Student Sample—Revised Draft

“Uniform or Dress Code: There’s a Difference” explores the benefits of having a school dress code policy compared to having school uniforms or having no policy at all. According to the text, a dress code can be defined as “a set of guidelines about what you can't wear. A uniform is a set of hard-and-fast rules about what you must wear.” While uniforms and dress codes might seem problematic to some for a number of reasons, dress codes create a more positive school environment than uniforms or no policy at all, when it comes to learning.

Dress codes create a more positive school environment than no policy at all because they create a safe and positive environment for students. In the article the author writes, “...which asks students to follow a few simple rules. These include avoiding any clothing printed with profanity or hateful language...Who needs to see bad language or racist comments coming through the halls? Any gang-related clothing is also prohibited. In many parts of the country, kids have been beaten up or even killed over gang colors or symbols. Both boys' and girls' pants must fit well enough that they aren't falling down, or ‘sagging.’ Visible underwear, strapless shirts or dresses, and anything with a very low-cut neckline are not allowed.” This shows how a dress code decreases instances of sexual harassment, violence, and bigotry, whereas a school with no policy at all cannot reduce the likelihood of threatening experiences.

Dress codes create a more positive school environment because they allow students to have more choices and self-expression. According to the text, “the typical uniform policy is more restrictive than a dress code. Though it does provide a guideline, the dress code also allows students freedom of choice.” The writer goes on to explain why this distinction is important. “For me, being told what I absolutely can't wear still allows me a say as to what I can wear. It lets me take some control over how I present myself.” There is a good balance between freedom and the school’s need to prevent distraction that helps students feel respected and allows them to be respectful.

Some may argue that school leaders are too busy to deal with all the choices students make and it would simply be easier to have a uniform rather than a dress code. While it is easier to enforce either having no dress code or having uniforms, dress codes create consistent opportunities to improve decision-making skills related to appropriateness and consideration of others. The critical thinking and learning that come from decisions related to a dress code can be transferred to other important situations in people’s lives.

## The annotations below explain how revisions benefitted the support and evidence for the essay.



