



DRESS CODE POLICY

OUR VALUES ARE:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal “distractions” without regulating individual students’ clothing/self-expression.
- Teachers can focus on teaching without the additional and often uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

I. GOALS OF A STUDENT DRESS CODE

A student dress code should accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as chemistry/biology (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing with images or language depicting or advocating violence or the use of alcohol or drugs.
- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.

II. RECOMMENDED DRESS CODE POLICY

The primary responsibility for a student’s attire resides with the student and parents or guardians. The school is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student.

Students should be given the most choice possible in how they dress for school. Any restrictions must be necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and must be explained within the dress code.

1. Basic Principle: Certain body parts must be covered for all students

Clothes must be worn in a way such that private parts and bottoms are covered with opaque material. All items listed in the “must wear” and “may wear” categories below must meet this basic principle.

2. Students Must Wear:

- Shirt
- Bottom: pants/sweatpants/shorts/skirt/dress/leggings
- Shoes: activity-specific shoe requirements are permitted (for example for sports). No heels over 2 inches.

3. Students May Wear:

- Hats, including religious headwear
- Hoodie sweatshirts (over head is allowed, unless it hinders the education process)
- Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants, and “skinny jeans.”
- Midriff-baring shirts – touching tops of pants
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear is not exposed.
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps.
- Athletic attire
- Clothing with commercial or athletic logos.

4. Students Cannot Wear:

- Violent language or images
- Images or language is depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity) or the use of same.
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class.
- Visible underwear. (Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation).
- Bathing suits
- Helmets or headgear that obscures the face (except as a religious observance).

III. GANG INFLUENCE

In order to discourage the influence of gangs, school staff shall take the following measures:

- Any student displaying behavior, gestures, apparel, or paraphernalia indicative of gang affiliation shall be referred to the director or designee.
- The student’s parent/guardian shall be contacted and may be asked to meet with school staff.
- The student may be sent home to change clothes.