

DRESS CODE

The Board believes that proper etiquette, social customs and good grooming are a definite part of the educational process. To this end, students should wear to school, and to school functions, clothing that is neat, clean and appropriate, and that meets the standards of the district's educational environment. Any extreme in clothing, hair, cosmetics, jewelry or appearance that may disrupt the normal operations of the school will not be acceptable.

1. Students' hair shall be clean, neat, and well-groomed. Hairstyles shall not, in the opinion of the administration, cause a health or safety hazard or cause a disruption of the educational process.
2. Students shall wear clothing and undergarments in keeping with their gender:
 - no half-length or bare-midriff shirts/blouses shall be worn;
 - no see-through garments, cutouts or holes in jeans, slacks, dresses, skirts, tank tops, etc. will be permitted;
 - the minimum length of any garment with legs in it, regardless of what it is called, must fall between the fingertips and knuckles. This includes, but is not limited to jeans, slacks, pants, sweat pants, culottes, walking shorts, "jams," "clam diggers," jumpsuits, etc. (see illustration) on pages 36 and 37;
 - skirts must be at least fingertip length; slits in skirts must be no higher than fingertip length;
 - shorts or skirts must allow students to be able to stand, sit, and/or bend with modesty;
 - because of concerns for the level of physical maturity of students in grades 7-12, cut-off shorts or cut-off shirts shall not be worn;
 - biking shorts or tights are not to be worn except during athletic periods or activities as approved by coaches;
 - students shall wear shoes (house shoes, slippers, and other similar footwear are not to be worn).
3. Students are not to wear "tee" shirts or other items of clothing with pictures, logos, phrases, letters, or words printed on them that are obscene, pornographic, or inappropriate in the judgment of the school administration. This shall include, but shall not be limited to:
 - clothing considered to represent illegal gangs or gang paraphernalia, including bandannas, "colors", oversized saggy pants (all pants must be worn at the waist);
 - nude/semi-nude figures;
 - clothing or jewelry or other symbols that contain satanic, witchcraft-related, or other occult wording or images;
 - pictures or logos of alcoholic beverages or tobacco, obscene gestures or words, or pictures that depict prohibited substances;
 - figures in sexually suggestive postures.
4. Students are not to wear hats of any kind within school buildings unless approved by the administration for special occasions. "Hats" should be interpreted broadly as "hats" and shall include caps, visors, bandannas, scarves or kerchiefs and similar hat-like apparel.
5. Earrings may be worn, in the ears. Body piercing rings, studs, etc. may not be worn on other body areas.
6. "Wild Eyes" or other similar contact lenses may not be worn.
7. Regulations in reference to grooming and dress for special activities such as athletics, fine arts, and drill team shall be governed by the immediate person in charge of these activities, under the direction of the principal.
8. Mums or corsages shall be permitted in the high schools only.
9. "Banquet attire" at the middle schools (grades 7-8) shall be limited to "Sunday attire". No formals, tuxedos or other such formal attire shall be worn.

Appropriateness and moderation in all things, concern for the health and safety of the students, and the avoidance of distractions to the educational process are the guiding principles of the student dress code. Styles and fads are constantly changing and cannot possibly be covered by specific rules and regulations. The task of evaluating what is proper in the way of dress and grooming is highly controversial, and opinion among people varies. The individual schools will assume responsibility for ruling on specific items of clothing and general appearance for reasons of safety and health, or for the order, well-being and general welfare of students.

The Board authorizes school administrators to make appropriate adjustments in the dress code to fit the unique needs of a particular campus and to employ appropriate disciplinary procedures to carry out and enforce this policy.