

DRESS AND GROOMING

The Keller ISD dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Campus administration discretion will be used in addressing any dress code issues which may adversely affect the educational atmosphere of the school.

All students are expected to adhere to common practices of modesty, cleanliness and neatness; to dress in a respectful manner within the acceptable standards of the community and in such a manner as to contribute to the academic atmosphere, not detract from it..

Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

1. Students' hair shall be clean, neat, and well-groomed. Hair styles and color shall not, in the opinion of the administration, cause a health or safety hazard or cause a disruption of the educational process.
2. Students' clothing shall adhere to the following guidelines:

Shirts/Tops

- Shirts must cover to the point of the shoulder.
- No half-length, tank top, strapless, backless, cut-off, halter, or bare-midriff shirts/blouses shall be worn.
- No sheer or see-through garments will be permitted unless worn over a shirt that meets dress code guidelines.
- Shirts must have appropriate coverage of undergarments. Undergarments must be completely covered at all times.
- No cleavage shall be visible. Low cut blouses, tops, sweaters, etc. with plunging necklines are not allowed.

Pants/Shorts

- Pants and shorts must be worn at the natural waistline. Belts must be worn if pants will not stay at the natural waistline. Exposure of undergarments is unacceptable.
- The minimum length of any garment, regardless of what it is called, must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Cut-outs or holes of any kind may not be above the top of the knee.
- Slits in skirts cannot be higher than mid-thigh.
- Form-fitting/skin tight pants, such as leggings, yoga pants, and tights, must be covered with a top/shorts reaching no higher than mid-thigh.
- Leggings/tights may not substitute as pants.
- Athletic shorts must follow dress code regulations except during athletic periods or activities as approved by coaches.

Shoes

- Students shall wear appropriate shoes.
- Slippers, cleats, "heelies" and other similar footwear are not to be worn.

3. Students are not to wear T-shirts, other items of clothing, or display temporary or permanent tattoos 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 bandanas, “colors”, and oversized saggy pants (all pants must be worn at the waist);
 - nude/semi-nude figures;
 - any clothing or jewelry or other symbols that are determined to be disruptive or offensive on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law;
 - pictures or logos of alcoholic beverages or tobacco, obscene gestures or words, or pictures that depict prohibited substances;
 - figures in sexually suggestive postures.
4. Clothing normally considered as pajamas is not acceptable as school attire.
5. Students are not to wear or carry hats of any kind within school buildings unless approved by the administration. Hats should be interpreted broadly to include caps, visors, bandanas, or head scarves and similar hat-like apparel.
6. Full-length jackets/coats, such as those commonly referred to as “trench” coats or “dusters,” are not allowed. Hoods may not be worn inside the building.
7. Earrings may be worn, in the ears. Body piercing rings, studs, etc. may not be worn on other body areas. Unauthorized visible piercings may not be maintained by spacers or covered with bandages or coverings. Teeth grills, ear gauges, and jewelry with sharp points will not be allowed. Any items worn that cause a distraction or safety hazard are not allowable.
8. Sunglasses and extreme styles of contact lenses may not be worn.
9. Religious exceptions to the dress code must be approved by the administration.
10. 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 campus administration.
11. Mums or corsages shall be permitted in the high schools only.
12. School dance attire must follow all dress code regulations if the event is held on school grounds unless otherwise specified by campus administration. Dress code for other events held off school grounds will be at the discretion of the administration.

In the event that a student is not following the dress code, the administrator/staff member should address the student in private to come up with a solution using the following guidelines:

- Give the student the option of removing articles and accessories that do not conform to the dress code.
- Allow the student to get another clothing item from his/her locker and change.
- Refer the student to the administrator's office to find another clothing item that can be substituted for inappropriate apparel.

If the student is uncooperative or unable to locate an appropriate change of clothes, the parent should be contacted, and the student will be sent home or placed in ISS. Please keep in mind that any clothing attire which in the judgment of the administration disrupts the educational process is not allowed.

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.