

DRESS CODE

Shelby County Schools students are expected to dress and appear in a manner that meets reasonable standards of health, cleanliness, modesty and safety. It should remain a matter of personal pride to maintain high standards of neatness and appropriateness of dress and appearance so as to reflect favorably upon yourself, your parents and Shelby County Schools. All experiences during school years should be a part of a student's preparation to take his/her place in society as a mature and responsible individual.

The responsibility for the appearance of the students begins with parents and the students themselves. Students' clothing, make-up and hairstyles should reflect neatness, cleanliness and self-respect so that the school is a desirable place in which to promote learning and character development. A student who is not attired appropriately or exhibits grooming which is detrimental and/or distracting to the school environment shall be asked to refrain from wearing the inappropriate attire in the future or shall be required to make arrangements for more suitable or appropriate dress. The principal shall make the final determination.

ACCEPTABLE attire is set forth below:

NOTE: These are not all inclusive

- **Pants of appropriate size and worn at waist**
- **Belts must be worn if pants have belt loops**
- **Shirts must be tucked into clothing**
- **Waist length sweaters and appropriate sized light weight jackets can be worn inside school for warmth as long as appropriate shirt is tucked underneath**
- **In grades 2-8, students may wear heavy sweatshirts to school, but they must be taken off upon arrival. Light weight jackets and sweaters may be worn in the classroom.**

UNACCEPTABLE attire is set forth below:

NOTE: These are not all inclusive

- **Spandex shorts and shirts**
- **Shorts, skirts, dresses, or slits in dresses more than 4 inches above the knee**
- **Tight tops, pants, or dresses**
- **Sleepwear/pajamas**
- **Barebacked or bare midriff tops, shirts, or dresses**
- **Low cut apparel, tank tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or fishnet mesh shirts**
- **Any transparent clothing**
- **Hats, hoods, and headgear may not be worn in school building or where prohibited**
- **Shower shoes**
- **Sunglasses without appropriate doctor's note and approval of principal**
- **Facial jewelry (includes tongue piercing)**
- **Any clothing that advertises substances that are illegal by law for minors or that depicts violence, profanity or is sexually suggestive in nature, or**

promotes any gang or gang activity or displays language or symbols that create a disruptive environment

NOTE: Uniforms for spirit and athletic groups must be consistent with student dress codes when worn during the instructional day.

DRESS CODE ENFORCEMENT

- **All personnel shall be responsible for consistently enforcing violations of the dress code and when necessary reporting to the site administrator/designee.**
- **When the site administrator/designee determines that a student's attire is in violation of this policy, the student will be required to modify his/her appearance, clothing, and/or apparel to be in compliance with the dress code.**
- **Appropriate action will be taken at the time the violation occurs, and when necessary, a home contact will be made seeking parental cooperation and assistance. The student may be taken home by the parent to modify unacceptable appearance or dress and returned to school.**
- **When arrangements for correction in appearance or dress may not be accomplished, the student will be placed in a supervised area to complete his/her school assignments apart from the regular school setting for the remainder of the school day. This placement will be in-school suspension in middle and high school, and an alternative, supervised area in the elementary school.**
- **In the case of questionable dress or grooming that is not specifically covered in the Dress Code Policy #6205, the school administration will make the final decision, which will be supported by the Superintendent and Board. Appropriate action will be taken and the parent will be contacted.**
- **Middle and high school apparel required for athletic competition or school related extracurricular activities or performances may be worn, consistent with board policy, contingent upon the approval of the principal.**

DRESS CODE ENFORCEMENT

FIRST OFFENSE: Parent or guardian will be contacted. Student will be required to change into acceptable clothing to remain in his/her regular program. Absence from class during this time will be unexcused.

SECOND OFFENSE: Parent or guardian will be contacted or conference will be held. Student will be sent home to change into acceptable clothing and will be assigned to detention or ISS. Absence from class during this time will be unexcused.

THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: Parent or guardian will be contacted. A conference will be held which involves the parent, student and school. Repeated violations will be deemed defiance and the student will be suspended from school based on the severity of the infraction. Absence from class during this time will be unexcused. A parent or guardian conference must be held with school administrators prior to the student being allowed to attend class.

If parents and principal of a school desire more stringent dress code measures, the principal must contact the superintendent. A school survey

seeking parental input could be conducted to determine if stricter standards need to be adopted.

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