

DRESS AND GROOMING

A safe learning environment is the first requirement of a good school. Young people who are safe and secure, are better able to learn and better able to display the essentials of good citizenship, thus they become better students. In response to increasing educational demands of our students, many parents, teachers, and school officials have come to see uniform dress as one positive and creative way to increase student achievement and increase school safety. They observed that the adoption of Uniform Dress Code can promote school safety, improve discipline, and enhance the learning environment. The potential benefits of uniform dress include:

- Helping parents and students resist peer pressure;
- Helping students concentrate on their school work; and
- Helping school officials recognize intruders who come to school.

As a result, the district will implement uniform dress for students. This initiative has proven successful for elementary, middle and high school students. The following information on uniform dress is provided to assist parents and students with shopping choices for the school year.

ELEMENTARY UNIFORM DRESS CODE

FEMALE STUDENTS

TOPS OR SHIRTS

- Tops should have either a polo style collar or a button down collar;
- Colors for tops may be school colors or neutral - white;
- Shirts should cover the waistline;
- Shirts longer than (3) three inches below the waistline should be tucked inside pants, shorts, or skirts.

PANTS/SHORTS/SKIRTS

- Bottoms should be khaki style or dress pants in colors khaki, blue, or black.

OTHER ITEMS

- Belts are required with no sagging of pants;
- Jeans are not included in uniform dress;
- Flip-Flops, Shower Shoes, Skate Shoes and House Slippers are not permitted;
- No headgear of any kind is allowed.

MALE STUDENTS

TOPS OR SHIRTS

- Tops should have either a polo style collar or a button down collar;
- Colors for tops may be school colors or neutral - white;
- Shirts longer than (3) three inches below the waistline should be tucked inside pants, shorts, or skirts.

PANTS/SHORTS

- Pants or shorts should be khaki style or dress pants in colors khaki, blue, or black.

OTHER ITEMS

- Belts are required with no sagging of pants;
- Jeans are not included in uniform dress;
- Flip-Flops, Shower Shoes, Skate Shoes and House Slippers are not permitted;
- No headgear of any kind is allowed.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM DRESS CODE

FEMALE STUDENTS

TOPS OR SHIRTS

- Tops will have either a polo style collar or a button down collar;
- Colors for tops will be school colors or white;
- Shirts must cover the waistline;
- Shirts longer than three inches below the waistline will be tucked inside pants, shorts, or skirts.

PANTS/SHORTS/SKIRTS

- Bottoms will be khaki (tan) style or dress pants in colors khaki, navy blue, or black. (Not jean style or jean material);
- Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skorts, including slits, must not be shorter than three (3) inches above the bend of the knee;
- Skinny pants, tights, or leggings that substitute as pants are not acceptable.

MALE STUDENTS

TOPS OR SHIRTS

- Tops will have either a polo style collar or a button down collar;
- Colors for tops will be school colors or white;
- Shirts longer than three (3) inches below the waist must be tucked inside pants.

PANTS/SHORTS

- Pants or shorts should be khaki (tan) style or dress pants in colors khaki, navy blue, or black. (Not jean style material)
- Pants must be completely buckled, belted, buttoned or fastened and without tears;
- Pants shall be worn so that the waistband is worn at the waist and not below the waist.

DRESS AND GROOMING CONT.

ALL STUDENTS

- Jeans are not included in uniform dress;
- Flip-Flops, shower shoes, skate shoes and house slippers are not permitted;
- Pajama/Loungewear bottoms and tops are not allowed;
- No headgear of any kind. This includes hair rollers, scarves, skullcaps, doo rags, wraps, (Exceptions will be considered in the case of headwear or scarves worn as a part of a student's religious practice or documented medical reasons)
- No hats are to be worn by any student in the building at any time. (No baseball caps during school hours on campus)

As a result, the district will implement uniform dress for students. This initiative has proven successful for elementary, middle and high school students. The following information on uniform dress is provided to assist parents and students with shopping choices for the school year.

ALL STUDENTS

- Belts are required with no sagging of pants;
- Jeans are not included in uniform dress;
- Flip-Flops, shower shoes, skate shoes and house slippers are not permitted;
- Pajama/loungewear bottoms and tops are not allowed;
- No headgear of any kind. This includes hair rollers, scarves, skullcaps, doo rags, wraps. (Exceptions will be considered in the case of headwear or scarves worn as a part of a student's religious practice or documented medical reasons)
- No hats are to be worn by any student in the building at any time. (No baseball caps during school hours on campus)

DESIGN, EMBLEM OR LETTERING

- Any design, emblem or lettering which refers to or promotes drugs, alcohol, profanity, immodesty or racial, ethnic or sexual discrimination is not allowed;
- No graphic, pictures, or writing on clothing shall be permitted except as part of an insignia;
- No larger than 4 inches by 4 inches.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following applies to uniform dress:

Any pullover garment that is worn all day (sweater, sweater vest, and sweatshirt)

- Must have a collar OR be worn with a collared uniform shirt or official school t-shirt underneath;
- Must be solid white or the school's additional solid shirt color.
- Must not have any colored trim, stripes, decorations, etc. (small logos are acceptable)

APPROPRIATE SIZES: Students shall wear clothing of appropriate size. Parents are expected to buy proper sized clothing. The size of shirts and pants shall be appropriate to the student's body size and shall not be unduly oversized or undersized. Skinny pants, tights, or leggings that substitute as pants are not acceptable. Tights and or leggings worn under a skirt that meets the length of dress rule or dress must conform to school uniform colors.

UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

- Students are not allowed to wear clothing, jewelry (including body piercing jewelry and "grills"), buttons, haircuts, tattoos, or other attire or markings which are offensive, suggestive, disruptive, or indecent such as:
 - Clothing associated with gangs,
 - Clothing encouraging the use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or violence,
 - Clothing associated with discrimination on the basis of age, color, handicap, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, race, religion, or sex.
- Clothing exposing the upper chest cleavage, torso or buttocks or upper thighs such as see-through garments, mini-skirts or mini-dresses, halters, backless dresses, tube tops or tank tops without over shirts, spaghetti strap garments without over shirts, bare midriff outfits, or shirts tied at the midriff.
- Intentionally altered clothing or unbuttoned and ill-fitted garments are not acceptable.
- Ill-fitted garments include; but are not limited to, garments that are too small or too large are not allowed. Transparent, mesh or see through clothing may not be worn. Skin tight clothing is not allowed. Clothing must be completely buckled, belted, buttoned or fastened.
- Cut or frayed clothing with holes or patched holes is not allowed.
- Skinny pants are not allowed.
- Clothing not properly fastened or with tears.
- Sleeveless shirts for boys are not allowed.
- No towels, wash cloths, or handkerchiefs are to be carried to school or used at school with exception of physical education class.
- Clothing or outer garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts, bloomers, tights, hosiery, and sleepwear.
- Clothing or footwear that is construed by the principal or designee as hazardous or dangerous to the health of the students or others.
- Hats, headgear, or any head covering, except when approved by the principal.

UNACCEPTABLE SHORTS

Athletic shorts including spandex-style "bicycle" shorts, cut-off jeans, frayed jeans or pants, cutoff sweat pants, short-shorts, running shorts, and see-through boxer-type shorts are not permitted.

FEMALE BASIC STANDARDIZED CLOTHING:

The District uniform clothing for females in grade six through grade twelve shall consist of a long or short sleeved white collared shirt, such as polo, oxford, or dress shirt, and a navy blue, black, or khaki (tan) skirt, walking shorts, slacks, skorts, jumper, or similar clothing. A small logo is acceptable; solid colors only.

DRESS AND GROOMING CONT.

MALE BASIC STANDARDIZED CLOTHING: The basic uniform clothing for males in grade six through grade twelve shall consist of a long or short-sleeved white collared shirt, such as polo, oxford, or dress shirt, and a navy blue, black, or khaki (tan) pair of long pants, or walking shorts. A small logo is acceptable; solid colors only.

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL CENTERS: For safety and employment training purposes, students enrolled at the vocational-technical centers will wear the uniform of the program. If there is no uniform, the district rule shall apply.

SCHOOL T-SHIRTS: In addition to the shirts described above, each school may include in its uniform dress code the option of allowing students to wear a school-sponsored T-Shirt (which may have a crew neck rather than a collar) only on school days or during school events designated by the principal.

"DRESS UP" OR "PROFESSIONAL DRESS" DAYS: School Principals have the discretion to allow students to "Dress Up" or wear "Professional Dress" on designated days. Principals will provide advance notice of those days. Students not wishing to wear "Professional Dress" on those days must adhere to the UNIFORM DRESS CODE.

"DRESS DOWN" DAYS: School Principals have the discretion to allow students to "Dress Down" on designated days. Dress Down days may be given as a reward based on school wide behavior. Principals will provide advance notice to students and parents of those days. Student not wishing to "Dress Down" on those designated days must adhere to the UNIFORM DRESS CODE. Dress down clothing must still be appropriate for school and aligned with the identified acceptable dress.

OUTER GARMENTS: The Uniform Dress Code shall not prohibit students from wearing coats, jackets, sweaters, or other appropriate outer garments when necessary due to weather conditions or for other legitimate reasons and shall be the appropriate size for the student, shall not be overly baggy, not violate any other provisions of this protocol.

- Long overcoats or sweaters that might serve to conceal contraband shall be removed immediately upon arrival at the school or function.
- Students with disabilities may be granted a reasonable accommodation. Such requests shall be produced in writing and submitted to the principal for approval.

**The principal is authorized to grant exemptions to the standard dress code for religious reasons, handicapping conditions, or extraordinary circumstances. Students granted an exemption must dress in an appropriate manner approved by the principal.*

Repeated violations of the Uniform Dress Code shall be treated as disruptive behavior under the Code of Student Conduct.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE PROCEDURES: All students are expected to dress appropriately for school. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for adherence to the Clayton County Board policies and procedures. Teachers and all other school personnel should reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting. School personnel are responsible for maintaining proper and appropriate conditions conducive to learning.

1. Should the student arrive at school out of uniform, he/she will be expected to change into said uniform. Failure to do so shall be treated as insubordination.
2. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, including study hall, detention and in-school suspension.
3. Students who violate the Uniform Dress Code will face disciplinary action involving one of the following:



- First Offense
 - Parent Contact (administrator or designee)
 - Verbal warning and dress code violation corrected
 - Violation will be logged into a uniform violation notebook
 - Modification of clothing
- Second Offense
 - Parent Contact (administrator or designee)
 - Verbal warning and dress code violation corrected
 - Assignment of school or teacher detention or administrative study hall
 - Violation will be logged into a uniform violation notebook
 - Modification of clothing
- Third Offense
 - Student conference and dress code violation corrected
 - Violation will be logged into a uniform violation notebook
 - Assignment to ISS, teacher's detention, or administrative study hall
 - Parents notified by administrator or designee
 - Additional disciplinary action at the discretion of the administrator
- Fourth or Additional Offenses
 - Parent and student conference with administrator or designee
 - Violation will be logged into a violation log
 - Assignment to ISS, teacher's detention, or administrative study hall and/or
 - Assignment to Friday/Saturday School (i.e. Discipline Management Class)
 - Additional disciplinary action at the discretion of the school administrator