

ARTICLE 18 DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

While fashion may change, the reason for being in school does not. Students are in school to learn. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts or interferes with the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted. Personal expression is permitted within these general guidelines. Students should consider the following questions when dressing for school:

- Does my clothing expose too much?
- Does my clothing advertise something that is prohibited to minors?
- Are there obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages on my clothing?
- Am I dressed appropriately for the weather?
- Do I feel comfortable with my appearance?

If a student has selected a manner of appearance that is beyond mere freedom of expression and disrupts the educational process or presents risk to themselves or others, they may be asked to change or be removed from the educational setting. Subsequent dress code violations will be termed insubordination and consequences will be assigned.

1. Clothes must be worn as intended by the manufacturer. Appropriate undergarments are required and undershirts intended to be worn as undergarments are not to be worn without appropriate outerwear.
2. Pants and shorts may not be worn below the hipbone. Shorts and skirts must extend past the students' fingertips when arms are extended down the sides; must be at least mid-thigh. They may not have holes above the knees. Primary level students (Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 2) students may be exempt from the length requirement.
3. Pants that are a tight, stretch design (leggings, jeggings, tights, spandex) must be worn with a top, shirt or blouse that has a straight hem, covering the full torso, to top of legs, front and back shorts of fingertip length. Primary level students (Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 2) may be exempt from the length requirement.
4. All shirts and blouses must have sleeves and cover the entire torso area (chest, cleavage, waist, back) and must be able to be tucked into pants, skirt or shorts.
5. Footwear must be worn at all times.

Prohibited from school:

1. Clothes that portray weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gangs, sexual content, racial, sexist, or prejudicial symbols, put downs, or any other that may promote an environment of hostility.
2. Pajama pants or tops and house slippers.
3. Shoes with built-in wheels.
4. Wearing hats, hoods and bandannas or bandanna-like products.
5. Sunglasses – unless prescribed by a physician.
6. Jewelry that presents a danger will not be permitted: spiked bracelets, spiked rings, sharp objects, chains longer than 12" or dangling freely, etc.