

## BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

With the 2019-2020 school year quickly approaching, the Coffee County School System would like to highlight major changes to the student handbook for the coming year and provide the student dress code to parents to aid in back-to-school shopping.

In all Coffee County Schools, cell phones should be kept off and secured appropriately (in locker, purse, pocket, bookbag, etc.) unless directed to be used by the teacher under his/her supervision for instructional purposes. At Coffee Middle School there is no use of cell phones, supervised or otherwise.

Headphones/earbuds are not to be used in schools except as authorized by a teacher/administrator for instructional use only. Headphones/earbuds may be used on school buses while the bus is in motion but not while entering or exiting the bus.

Vaping is now a Level III Offense which will result in 3-5 days home suspension per offense at discretion of administrator.

Inappropriate use of cell phones and images (pornography--includes Internet, social media, & texting) is now a Level III Offense which will result in 3-5 days home suspension per offense at discretion of administrator.

### **STUDENT DRESS CODE FOR COFFEE COUNTY SCHOOLS**

DRESS CODE APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS at schools and school activities. In order to maintain an appropriate climate for learning, a student dress code has been established for the Coffee County School System. The administration reserves the right to add and delete to the present dress code as deemed necessary to maintain appropriate and modest dress. Clothing should be appropriate for the occasion, in good taste, and in good condition. While the administration recognizes the individuality of each student and does not wish to stifle individual taste, we must always remember our primary mission is to educate, not provide a forum for the latest fads. Clothing and/or adornment that attracts undue attention and detracts from the academic climate of the classroom cannot and will not be allowed. Students should remain in dress code as long as he/she is on campus. Good hygiene and grooming habits are expected. Decency is the key to proper school dress. Appropriate dress promotes a more serious school atmosphere which emphasizes academics and promotes good behavior. Therefore, the Coffee County School System is dedicated to teaching students the importance of a respectable appearance which is a lesson that can positively impact their self-respect, self-esteem, and life experiences.

Guidelines for dress code:

1. **Proper undergarments should be worn at all times and should not be visible.**
2. Shirts must cover midriff completely when arms are raised or when sitting down. Shirts that show cleavage, midriff (front or back), off the shoulder, see through, or tied (front or back) are prohibited. Any attire questionable is at administrative discretion. Sleeveless tops must have enough material to cover the area from neck to shoulder. The neckline must cover between top of chest and collar bone. Spaghetti straps & tank tops are not acceptable.
3. Shorts, skirts, and dresses must not be shorter than the top of the knee in the front or the back. (CMS, GWFCF, & CHS)
4. Boys are not allowed to wear sleeveless shirts.
5. Shirts that hang lower than the front and back pockets of pants **MUST BE TUCKED IN AT ALL TIMES.** (Rolling shirts under to show pockets instead of tucking in shirt will not be permitted.)
6. A removable jacket, sweater, or vest, may be worn over another shirt as long as the shirt worn underneath meets dress code.

7. Pants must be worn at the natural waist and must cover midriff completely when arms are raised or when sitting down. They cannot be poorly fitted or oversized and baggy, so-as to allow sagging of the pants.
8. Pants, jeans, shorts, shirts, tights, leggings, etc. must be free from holes, frays, tears, cuts and graffiti. Anything questionable is at administrative discretion. Tights and leggings can be worn under dresses, skirts, and shirts that cover the hips and buttocks area. The dresses, skirts, and shirts must be longer than fingertips with arms straight down against the body.
9. Shoes must be worn at all times, tied securely, and firmly secured to feet. No shower shoes, spiked heels, bedroom shoes, shoes with wheels, or slippers allowed.

Unacceptable for ALL students:

1. NO jerseys of any type except CHS/CMS team jerseys on game days
2. Spandex or other excessively tight or snug-fitting garments
3. NO holes in clothing
4. Unbuckled overalls
5. Coveralls
6. Headgear of any type; bandanas, headbands, sweatbands, picks, combs in the hair, etc
7. Extreme color/hairstyles, make-up, etc., that distracts from the learning environment
8. Terry cloth tops or bottoms
9. NO sweat suits or sweat pants; (nylon wind suits are acceptable)
10. See-through fabrics, unless the shirt worn underneath meets dress code
11. Students wearing colors, clothing, or other paraphernalia aligning them with a gang or unacceptable group is not tolerated.
12. NO sunglasses (this includes resting on top of head)
13. Any accessory, item, or article of clothing advertising alcohol, tobacco, sex, gangs, guns, violence, drugs, or any item creating a hostile or disruptive environment
14. Pajamas or pajama-like clothing
15. Dog or spike accessories
16. Chains hanging from pockets
17. No hood, hat, or rag of any kind may be worn in the buildings or on buses. This includes wearing a hood from a hooded jacket.
18. NO trench coats allowed on campus.
19. Any jewelry or attire that is distracting to learning environment

Consequences of Dress Code Violations

- Change to appropriate dress code: Warning issued and documented
- Change to appropriate dress code: 1 day ISSP
- Change to appropriate dress code: 2 days ISSP
- Progressive discipline will apply for additional offenses.

Administrative discretion applies. (If shirts are available in administrator's office, student will be given a shirt instead of calling home for a new one.) Final approval of any questionable dress and enforcement of this dress code is left to the discretion of the school administration.