

## DRESS CODE

### Student Appearance and dress code

Responsibility for the dress and appearance of students enrolled in the Madison County District Schools primarily rests with parents and the students. Some student apparel, however, may not be appropriate to wear to school even though that same apparel may be appropriate to wear in other settings. To assist parents and students in making appropriate fashion and grooming decisions for school, the School Board has established the following minimal guidelines for the appearance and dress of students (*Florida Statutes 1001.43(1)(b)*).

The standards of appearance for students shall insure that the students be clean, neat, and properly dressed. They shall observe modes of dress and standards of personal grooming which are appropriate for the academic environment. It is the responsibility of the principal to see that the dress appearance of any student shall not be extreme, to the point of creating a disturbance, or is hazardous to self, others, or school property, whether or not the specific case is covered by the information below. The principal or principal's designee has the final authority for interpreting whether a student's apparel/appearance conforms to the dress code.

*All students in grades PK-8 must adhere to the District School Board of Madison County's District-wide Dress Code Policy. Students in grades PK-8 may wear shirts with or without collars, school t-shirts and button down shirts. All shirts must be solid in color. All students in PK-8 may wear jeans (blue or black in color), khaki (tan) or dark pants/shorts/skorts. Students in grades PK-8 must follow all guidelines identified below in items #2 - #5 below as they relate to specific descriptions of permitted clothing. **Note: Students attending Madison County Excel Alternative Education Center must adhere to the approved dress code described in the school's dress code/policy found in this Code of Conduct.***

➤ **Rights**

**Students have the right to dress comfortably in clothing that are appropriate for school, are not dangerous to health and safety, and do not create a substantial and material disruption to the school.**

➤ **Responsibilities:**

**(1) HEAD**

- No sunglasses, hats, caps, visors, hoods, bandanas, or other head gear may be worn on campus except with administrative permission (i.e. medical necessity, religious, school related events, outdoor activities). All hoodies must remain off the head while inside the buildings.

**(2) UPPER GARMENTS**

- **Grades PK-8** may wear upper garments that include logos of Madison County School District sponsored activities, clubs and sports programs only. **Grades 9-12** may wear upper garments with logos deemed appropriate by school site administration.
- Garments must be of a length and fit that are suitable to the build and stature of the student.
- Clothing exposing the torso or midriff, either front, back or sides shall not be worn. The following items are prohibited: halter tops, tube tops, backless dresses/tops, spaghetti straps, tank tops, one-strap/one-shoulder tops, and strapless tops.
- Garments may not be made of transparent or "see through" material. Note: If undergarments are visible the upper garment is not permitted.

- Necklines of all upper garments must be modest. Low cut necklines are prohibited, and the cut of garments must not expose undergarments or cleavage.
- Shirts must touch, at a minimum, the top portion of lower garments at all times.
- Garments that are offensive, distracting or inappropriate are prohibited, including but not limited to those with see-through materials, skintight items, pajamas, trench coats, rips/tears, printed profanity, or language/symbols/styles that promote the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, gang-related or other illegal activities

### **(3) LOWER GARMENTS**

- **Grades PK-8:** lower garments designed with or modified to have tears or rips may not be worn. **Grades 9-12** may wear lower garments design with or modifications must be below the knee
- Undergarments and the buttocks **MUST** remain entirely covered even while seated.
- Dresses, skirts and shorts must be no shorter than two (2) inches above the knee.
- The waistband of pants, shorts or skirts must be worn and secured between the hips and the waist.
- No gym shorts or sweat pants may be worn.
- Undergarments as outerwear, pajama pants, bathing suits, cheer shorts, bike shorts and spandex material bottoms are prohibited.

### **(4) FOOTWEAR**

- All students shall wear shoes/footwear and they must remain attached to their feet. Students must wear shoes that are safe and appropriate for the learning environment.
- Cleats, slippers, and shoes with wheels are not permitted to be worn on campus. Cleats may be worn for appropriate extracurricular sports in proper areas
- All footwear must be “closed toe and heel”. No flip flops, sandals or “Crocs” are permitted.

### **(5) ACCESSORIES**

- Clothing, jewelry, and accessories shall not convey messages that are: crude, vulgar/profane, violent/death-oriented, gang related, sexually suggestive, promote alcohol, drugs or tobacco.
- Jewelry or accessories to include body piercings that pose a safety concern for the student or others are prohibited. Dog collars, wallet chains, combs, large hair picks or chains that connect one part of the body to another are prohibited.

**NOTE: The principal or the principal’s designee has the final authority for interpreting whether a student’s apparel/appearance conforms to the dress code.**

## **VIOLATION OF DRESS CODE**

If the principal determines that a student’s clothing does not comply with Board policy, his/her parent/guardian may be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothes to school, or you may be asked to leave an after school activity. The student may also receive a disciplinary consequence for violating the school’s dress code policy. Repeated violations may result in progressively more serious consequences.