

Taylor County School District

Standard of Dress for K-12 Students 2016-2017

Senate Bill 228, Code of Student Conduct amends Florida Statute 1006.07 relating to school board duties relating to student discipline and school safety. This bill requires student conduct codes to include provisions on student dress and style of wearing clothing and provides sanctions for violators. This new law requires board policy to address the responsibilities of each student with regard to appropriate dress, respect for self and others, and the role that this has on an orderly learning environment. This law is effective beginning July 1, 2011.

The Taylor County School Board has a required standard of dress for all students K-12. There are many positive reasons for a school dress code requiring uniforms. They are:

- A standard of dress encourages students to express their individuality through personality and academic achievements, not outward appearances
- A standard of dress puts the focus on academics, not fashion, because they project a neat, serious, businesslike image
- Schools with a standard of dress have fewer discipline problems because students aren't distracted
- A standard of dress can be less expensive
- A standard of dress eliminates the visible differences across the socio-economic groups
- A standard of dress eliminates pressure to wear brand name clothing
- A standard of dress creates a sense of school pride and belonging

The faculties and staffs of the Taylor County Schools encourage all students to take pride in their personal appearance through good grooming and wearing proper clothing. Personal appearance is very important to the success of a student. To dress the part of being a student is to be neat, clean, and not distracting to others. Hair should be neat, well-groomed and without foreign objects or unnatural hair color.

Parents should exercise good judgment in seeing that their son/daughter dresses appropriately for school and for school activities.

The principal shall determine when a student's personal hygiene, appearance, or dress is such that it disrupts or interferes with the educational process or endangers the health or safety of the students or others.

Standard of Dress

You are required to follow the standard of dress at all times while attending school or any school sponsored activity.

Girls:

- The standard of dress is a long or short –sleeved solid colored, collared blouse or oxford shirt which is bulldog blue, white, or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County School logo (Green, Gold or White for Steinhatchee School)
- Or; a solid color polo shirt with a collar in bulldog blue, white or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County school logo (Green, Gold or White for Steinhatchee School)
- Or; a solid color crew neck t-shirt of bulldog blue, white, or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County school logo. (Green, Gold, or White for Steinhatchee School) **No v-neck or scoop neck t-shirts.**
- Solid colored skirt, pants, walking shorts or skorts of cotton or twill fabric, of the color of khaki, blue, or black, or of denim fabric of the color blue or black. (Dresses maybe worn but must be solid color with short or long sleeves and follow the other requirements.)
- Jeans will need to be solid color without color trims, embroidery, or other decorations.

Boys:

- The standard of dress is a long or short-sleeved solid colored collared oxford, or dress shirt which is bulldog blue, white, or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County School logo (Green, Gold, or White for Steinhatchee School)
- Or; a solid color polo shirt with a collar in bulldog blue, white or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County school logo (Green, Gold, or White for Steinhatchee School)
- Or; a solid color crew neck t-shirt of bulldog blue, white, or bulldog orange with or without a Taylor County school logo. (Green, Gold, or White for Steinhatchee School) **No V-neck or scoop neck t-shirts.**
- A plain solid color pants or walking shorts of cotton or twill fabric of the color khaki, blue, or black, or denim fabric in blue, or black.
- Jeans will need to be solid color without color trims, embroidery, or other decorations.

Students may wear special clothing necessary for a school- sponsored activity, as permitted by the principal.

Other Standard of Dress Requirements

1. Clothes must be appropriate size, with waist of garment worn at student's waist.
2. Clothing that is too tight or too loose is not appropriate for school.
3. Shorts/Skirts length must be to the knee.
4. Clothing must be properly fastened.
5. Clothing that is torn, has holes or pants that are frayed are not to be worn to school.
6. Athletic shorts, cut-off pants, short-shorts, or running shorts are not appropriate at school.
7. Plain equals free from design or detail; no burnouts, see through, lace or any revealing material.
8. Visible undergarments, sleepwear or outer garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts, or bras are not appropriate at school.
9. Outer garments or accessories which have slogans, signs, images, or symbols are not permitted that:
Promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gang identification, weapon, or lewd sexual behavior or;
Denigrate or promote discrimination for or against an individual or group on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, race, religion or gender
10. Body piercings, except for earrings on the ears are not appropriate and allowed at school.
11. Shoes must be safe and appropriate. No athletic cleats, bedroom shoes, or shoes with wheels.

Discipline for Failure to Follow the Dress Code Policy

SB 228- Code of Student Conduct amends F.S. 1006.07 to include disciplinary action to any student who violates the dress code policy.

First Offense: the student is given a verbal warning and the Principal or designee must call the student's parent or guardian.

Second Offense: the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 5 days, one day of in-school suspension and the principal or designee must meet with the student's parent or guardian.

Third Offense: the student must receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed three days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the principal or designee must call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

Fourth Offense and all subsequent offenses: 5 days of in-school suspension

Note: If the wearing of clothing in compliance with the standard of dress/dress code policy violates a student's sincerely held religious belief, then such students and the student's parent shall submit a signed affidavit setting forth the religious issue and the requested exemption to the Dress Code Policy.

Parents may opt out of the standard of dress by reason of a student's disability or medical condition.

****The Board approved the Standard of Dress for our District on August 9, 2016. It stays in effect until the Board changes or abolishes it.***