

LINDEN CITY SCHOOLS DRESS CODE POLICY

The Board is aware that personal dress and appearance constitute individual expression, and within certain limits, wishes to allow students the freedom to express themselves in their own unique manner. The faculty and administration of each school shall encourage all students to be aware that dress and personal appearance may, in a very real manner, influence the image and attitude others have on the student as an individual. Therefore, the Board shall require each student to consider reasonable judgment, tact, and decency in the selection of clothes for school and personal appearance.

The Principal and/or their designee has the authority to determine inappropriate and/or unacceptable dress. When the dress and/or appearance of the individual student disrupts the teacher, learning process, or disrupts a positive school environment, the Principal and/or their designee has the authority to take disciplinary action. Dress code violations will be dealt with according to the Linden City Board of Education's Code of Conduct.

In general, all students must dress appropriately for school. Dress and appearance must not present health or safety problems or cause disruptions.

Students in the Linden City School System shall wear the following:

1. Clothing conducive to learning, and respectful of the learning environment
2. Clothing which covers the shoulders, cleavage, abdomen, and back
3. Clothing that is appropriate to student's size
4. Pants/slacks at the natural waistline
5. Shoes appropriate for the activity and safety: class, gym, shop, etc...
6. Shorts, skirts, and dresses no more than two inches above the knee, unless deemed inappropriate by the administration.

Students are prohibited from wearing the following:

1. Sunglasses in the building except with a doctor's prescription
2. See-through, skintight, spandex and/or revealing clothing
3. Open or chain belts, belt buckles not buckled, electronic belts or buckles, or cap "fish hooks"
4. Unfastened overalls
5. Pants/slacks with the appearance of sagging
6. Hats, caps, headgear, and any other head cover in the buildings on campus
7. Curlers, picks, combs, or chop sticks
8. Bandannas or sashes anywhere as a part of dress
9. House shoes/slippers/flip flops are inappropriate unless approved by the school administration
10. Clothing depicting unacceptable and/or inappropriate decals, slogans,

- or pictures; profanity; language containing or referring to suggestive or immoral behavior, gang activity; alcohol, drugs, or tobacco
11. Any clothing and/or headgear which directly or by innuendo disrespects (or is perceived to disrespect) a student's race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or disability and/or creates, supports, or promotes a hostile learning environment contrary to the anti-harassment policies or the Board of Education (including negative feelings, disharmony, racial or religious discord, intimidation, embarrassment and/or fear)
 12. Trench coats or Matrix coats shall not be worn at school
 13. No athletic attire of any type (sweat pants, wind suits, athletic jerseys, etc.) Exceptions for game days, special events, etc...
 14. Any body piercings visible in any manner. Females wear one set of earrings, but otherwise, no piercings shall be permitted. Males may not wear any earrings or piercings, other than a small ball earring worn in the lobe. This is restricted to one per lobe.
 15. Males must wear a belt with pants and pants must be worn at the natural waistline. There shall be no large or oversize belt buckles, and the Principal shall have discretion in this matter.

Exceptions may be made to any of the above when physical or other circumstances warrant or for certain groups during performances or special activities as authorized by the administration.

PARENTS MUST ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DRESS AND APPEARANCE OF THEIR CHILDREN

Students are required to follow the dress code on school property including in the busload zone and during arrival and dismissal times. If you have any questions or comments, please call the appropriate school. All final decisions will be made by the local administrators.

DRESS CODE DISCIPLINE POLICY

The following steps will be taken when a student is out of compliance with the dress code policy at Linden City Schools.

- 1st Infraction: Parent Contact
- 2nd Infraction: In-School Suspension
- 3rd Infraction: Parent Conference
- 4th Infraction: Suspension; number of days dependent upon situation

NOTE: Every attempt will be made to help the child be in compliance. If parents cannot be contacted to bring a change of clothing, or students refuse to borrow clothing that will be made available from the office, or the student does not obtain appropriate clothing, the child will spend the remainder of the day in