

## DRESS CODE

The faculty and staff of Tuscumbia City Schools believe that good grooming and personal appearance are essential elements in the teaching and learning processes. Therefore, it is expected that students dress in such a manner that will ensure the health and safety of the school. Furthermore, the dress and personal appearance will not be a disturbance to the learning process or interfere with the legitimate interest and welfare of the students.

The principal or his/her designee shall have the authority to take appropriate disciplinary action when the dress of any student is disruptive to the extent that it interferes with proper learning processes; detracts from proper decorum of the school; or constitutes a challenge to established parameters. Students are required to change their clothing if it is found to be inappropriate. Violations must be corrected before students return to class.

- Wearing apparel, jewelry, make-up, or any mannerisms related to style which are determined by the principal or his/her designee to be a distraction to the educational process of the school or harmful to the safety of any student shall be prohibited.
- Students are not to wear tank tops, midriff tops, or halter-tops.
- Shorts and/or dresses are to be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Pants and other garments with holes 5 inches above the middle of the patella with exposed skin will not be allowed.
- Pants and other garments must fit at the natural waist (above the hips) Sagging is not permitted. The stomach, back, and underwear of all students (male and female) must be completely covered while sitting, standing, or bending.
- Pajama pants are not allowed, unless specified by a school sponsored activity (i.e. spirit days during homecoming).
- Blankets and pillows are a safety concern and are not allowed for grades 1-12.
- Shirts, blouses and tops may not show cleavage or expose skin at the midriff.
- Dress and blouse shoulder straps must be at least two (2) inches in width.
- No off-the-shoulder/strapless garments are permitted.
- Excessively long and/or bulky oversized shirts and outer garments (pants, shirts, or coats/jackets) will not be permitted.
- Each teacher will be the judge if any additional decisions must be made of what is permitted in his/her class and must be obeyed concerning student wear.
- Students are expected to wear shoes or sandals at all times.
- Hats, caps, or any other head coverings are not to be worn inside buildings.
- Sunglasses are not to be worn in the buildings unless medically approved.
- Clothing, paraphernalia, or devices, which are judged to be related to or associated with gang affiliation or gang activity, are prohibited.
- Clothing and other apparel with sharp points and/or objects will not be allowed.
- Clothing with pictures, writing, and/or symbols promoting the use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or sexual activity shall be considered a distraction to the educational process and is therefore prohibited.

Repeat offenders of the dress code will be subject to disciplinary action. This may involve the office notifying the parents for a change of clothing, detention, or sending the student to ISS for the remainder of the day.

\*\*\*Activity sponsors may establish different rules for dress and grooming as a prerequisite for membership and participation in the activity

\*\*\*A suggested rule of thumb to follow: If there is a question as to the appropriateness, get approval first.