

Calhoun County Schools GROOMING AND DRESS CODE

This policy shall apply to all students, Kindergarten through 12th grades. Age and size appropriateness may be considered when applying this policy in grades K-2.

Good grooming and personal appearance are essential elements in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it is expected that students shall dress in such a manner that will ensure health and safety, and not detract from the learning environment. Furthermore, dress and personal appearance are not to be disruptive or interfere with the educational interest and welfare of the students or the purposes of public school education.

1. Students must be neatly dressed, clean and well-groomed while at school.
2. Shoes must be worn at all times by all students
3. Shirts, blouses, and dresses should have necklines, arm openings, and closures that do not cause distraction in the learning process. Low-cut tops, bare midriff tops, halters, spaghetti straps, tank tops, tube tops, or other tops that excessively expose the bust-line, waistline, or back area should not be worn. Transparent and form-fitting garments are not permitted.
4. Clothing or paraphernalia related to or associated with gang affiliation or activity are prohibited. (See NOTE below regarding More Severe Disciplinary Action.)*
5. **Belongings and garments must be void of inappropriate writings, drawings, symbols, and/or decals. This includes,** but is not limited to, those that promote alcoholic beverages, **tobacco products**, or illegal drugs; those that have lewd, profane, obscene or sexually suggestive statements or illustrations; those that contain violent or abusive statements or illustrations; those with racist implications or that portray or symbolize hate groups or extremist groups tending to stigmatize or infringe upon the rights of others; or those which otherwise create a hostile or offensive learning environment or otherwise tend to cause disruption. (See NOTE below regarding More Severe Disciplinary Action.)*
6. Dresses or skirts may be no shorter than 5 inches above the middle of the kneecap. Shorts shall be no shorter than 17" in length along the outside seam beginning at the waistband or no shorter than 5 inches from the middle of the kneecap.
7. Pants must cover the pelvic girdle (hip bones). "Slacking" will not be permitted. Sweat pants, form-fitting garments, and any type of underwear are not permitted as outerwear.
8. Sunglasses, hats, caps, bandannas, or any other head covering may not be worn inside the school building. Consideration will be given to extenuating circumstances.
9. Garments with holes, rips, or tears must be properly repaired at all points above dress/shorts length.

10. Career technical classes or shops, physical education classes, lab classes, band and choral, and similar classes with special requirements may develop additional dress codes to promote safety for all students or to allow for mobility for specific activities.
11. With approval of the principal and superintendent, activity sponsors may establish more restrictive rules for dress and grooming as a prerequisite for membership or participation in specific co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
12. The principal or his/her designee will make the final judgment as to whether or not a student's clothing is appropriate for school wear.