

DRESS CODE

The Board and administration recognize the importance of personal rights and privileges of each individual student in the school system. However, the Board equally recognizes that individual rights stop where the rights of the group (the school) begin and no student/employee has the right to dress or appear in such manner that is disruptive to the teaching-learning process.

The Board strongly believes it is the responsibility of students and parents/guardians/custodians to use reason, good judgment, and common sense in the choice of dress and physical grooming in the school setting.

Therefore, the following dress and appearance standards are applicable in all schools of the School District. Local school personnel are expected to enforce the standards with firmness and fairness in an effort to foster the orderly operation of the schools. The standards are as follows:

1. Students must wear shoes. Shoes which mark or damage floors will not be permitted. No roller, or skate shoes are allowed.
2. Students must recognize that revealing clothing is not appropriate apparel in school. Garments that are “see-through,” cut low or expose ones midriff are not acceptable, nor shall males open the fronts of their shirts to expose skin below the collar bone. Garments must have a visible sleeve that extends beyond the end of the shoulder. Skirts or shorts must not be shorter than touching the top of the knee when the wearer stands upright. Gym shorts, spandex/bike shorts and other similar type shorts are prohibited. Under garments shall not be visible at any time.

Students shall not wear pants/shorts that, when fastened, sag, are baggy, or fit below the waist. All pants/shorts must fit around the waist and be properly fastened.

Lounging/pajama clothes are not to be worn in school. With administrative approval, special clothing days may be allowed.

3. Dark glasses may be worn in the school building only when a doctor’s prescription so provides.
4. Nose rings, tongue pins, lip pins, naval pins/rings, teeth ornaments, otherwise know as grillz or other similar items are prohibited on school premises during the regular school day or partial school day.
5. Tee shirts or other clothing, which depict vulgarity, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or pictures/writing, which may be disruptive or are suggestive, are not to be worn.

6. Students shall not bring hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands, or any type head covering in the district buildings except for a medical purpose.
7. Bandanas are not to be brought to school. Any paraphernalia that can/does denote gang affiliation shall not be worn. With administrative approval special cap or hat days may be held.
8. When dress or appearance of an individual student disrupts the orderly teaching-learning process or is unsafe, the principal has the authority to take disciplinary action.

Dress Code Infractions

Students who come to school in clothing that is not within the dress code will be given opportunity to call parents to bring an item that is within the dress code. If the student is unable to reach the parent or the parent is unable to bring a change to the school, the student will be placed in In-School Suspension for the remainder of the school day on the first offense. On the second offence or more, within the same school year, the student will be placed on out-of-school suspension for a minimum of one day.

SOURCE: Colbert County Board of Education, Tuscumbia, Alabama
ADOPTED: Feb 5, 1987; REVISED: Jun 8, 1995; Jul 10, 1997; Mar 12, 2002; Jun 13, 2006
LEGAL REF.: Griffin v. Tatum, 425 F.2d 201 (5th Cir., 1970); Karr v. Schmidt, 460 F.2d 609 (1972).