

Covington County Schools

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

Students are expected to be clean and appropriately dressed for school. Dress and appearance must not present health or safety problems or cause disruption to the teaching/learning process. The local school principal will be the final authority for determining appropriate dress within the framework of the policy.

STANDARD I

Dress and Appearance---Grades K-4:

- A. Half-shirts, halter or tube tops, fish net or muscle shirts, and biker shorts may not be worn to school.
- B. Midriffs should be covered.
- B. Obscene T-shirts or hats with language pertaining to tobacco or alcohol, sexual innuendoes, or foul language will not be allowed. Any apparel which renders one's appearance as suggestive or indecent may not be worn. Clothing should be in good taste for the age, maturity, and size of the student.
- C. Shoes must be worn for protection. Shoes which mark or damage floors will not be permitted.
- D. Jewelry which is deemed inappropriate or poses a health hazard or distraction will not be allowed.
- E. While medium length apparel may be appropriate for most students in this age range, some students are larger and more mature causing clothing designed for younger students to be inappropriate and uncomfortable. Body suits and tight fitting jeans or pants should not be worn to school.

STANDARD II

Dress and appearance---Grades 5-12:

Teachers may deny a student admission to class due to improper dress. In this case, the student's absence will be unexcused. Students who violate the dress code will be documented, warned and asked to secure proper attire on the first offense. Disciplinary actions may be taken for the following:

- A. Wearing a head covering of any type in the school building during school hours.
- B. **Having suggestive, offensive, or vulgar writing and/or pictures on clothing (including tobacco or alcoholic beverage signs, ads, offensive words, etc.).** In addition, students will not be permitted to wear any articles of clothing that promote any groups that do not reflect a positive image in today's society. Clothing that

- dishonors the flag or military uniforms, has racial implications or is gang related (including trench coats) is not permitted at school. School principals will have the discretion to determine negative images.
- C. Exposing midriffs including exposed stomachs backs and shoulders must be covered. Inappropriate dress will include sleeveless shirts or dresses, sundresses, spandex or bicycle pants, mini dresses or skirts, unbuckled overalls, low ride pants, baggy pants, half-shirts, tank tops, halter tops, tube tops and sleeping apparel. Pants designed to be worn with a belt must have a belt worn at the waist.
 - D. Wearing clothing with cutouts, tears, holes, slits, open-sided tops, tops that are cut extremely low, or shirts that are longer than shorts under the shirt.
 - E. Wearing see-through clothing, such as mesh jerseys, without a full shirt under the jersey.
 - F. Wearing clothing that is tight fitting and revealing is prohibited. It is recommended that shorts/skorts not be worn to school. If shorts, skorts, dresses, or skirts are worn, the length should be three (3) inches above the top of the knee.
 - F. Wearing inappropriate shoes. Comfortable shoes should be worn due to health and safety rules.
 - G. Wearing jewelry or other accessories which are deemed inappropriate or pose a health hazard or distraction (including nose rings, body rings, nail piercing, tongue piercing, and wallet chains).
 - I. Athletic bags will be permitted in designated areas only.