

The policy of the Decatur City Board of Education is 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 their health and safety while at school. Furthermore, the dress and personal appearance may not be disruptive or interfere with the legitimate interest and welfare of the students.

Students should comply with the following guidelines:

1. Students must be neatly dressed, clean and well groomed while at school. Middle and high school students must tuck-in all shirts and blouses.
2. Shoes or sandals must be worn.
3. Hair must be clean, neatly styled and well groomed, not in the eyes and not of length dangerous around equipment.
4. **Clothing with pictures, writing, and/or symbols promoting the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sexual activity, weapons, violence or that maybe otherwise offensive shall be considered disruptive of the educational process and is therefore prohibited.**
5. Shorts may be worn that are consistent with the intent of this policy.
6. Miniskirts are not acceptable.
7. Appropriate school wear for girls shall be dresses or shirts (blouses) with skirts, pants, or appropriate shorts.
8. Undershirts and sleeveless shirts are not acceptable for boys.
9. With approval of the principal, activity sponsors may establish different rules for dress and grooming as a prerequisite for membership and participation in the activity.
10. Hats and sunglasses are not to be worn inside a building.
11. Clothing, paraphernalia, or devices which are judged to be related to, or associated with hate groups or gang affiliation activity are prohibited.
12. Students will not wear or have in possession any jewelry, ornaments, or accessories that distract from the educational process or that might be used as a weapon.
13. Body piercing which may include facial, body, or tongue is not allowed. This includes accessories that give the impression of body piercing. There is an exception for earrings.

Any students violating the dress code may be suspended for the remainder of the school day and may receive unexcused absences in the classes missed. The principal or his/her designated person(s) has