

Marion County Schools

DRESS CODE

The Board and administration recognizes 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 has the right to dress or appear in such a manner that becomes disruptive to the teaching learning process.

The Board strongly believes it is the responsibility of students and parents or guardians to use reason, good judgment, and common decency 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 System. 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. Hats, caps, sweat bands, bandannas, visors, and sunglasses must be removed and placed in the locker or designated area and remain during the school day unless it is a special dress-up day.
2. Hair must be clean and well groomed, and should not impair vision. Boys' hair must not touch the collar of a T-shirt (rounded, crew-neck, when measured at full length i.e., loose or unpinned). Male students with facial hair must keep it neat and well groomed. No hairstyle, hair color, body piercing, clothing, or other article which is disruptive to the learning environment or which identifies a student as being a member of a gang or any subversive or unlawful organization will be allowed.
3. Ear jewelry may be worn by females only. (Band-Aids may not be worn to conceal an earring. Nose jewelry is not to be worn by boys or girls while they are in school. Jewelry (studs, pins, etc.) may not be worn in any visible pierced areas of the body, including, but not limited to, the tongue and eyebrow.
4. Students are to wear clothing in the manner for which it is designed. No clothing shall be worn inside out; suspenders braces shall be fastened and belts buckled. Pants must be worn at the waist and may not be excessively baggy. Pants may not have writing or graphics on area of the buttocks. Tops must be long enough to tuck in and stay tucked in. **School administration may require that shirts and blouses be tucked in and coats be removed upon entering the building.**
5. Sun dresses and backless dresses or tops will be worn with a jacket or an appropriate covering.
6. Cut-off tops, tank tops, and mesh tops can be worn if a T-shirt with sleeves is worn underneath or another shirt is worn over the top.
7. Students must wear proper undergarments.
8. Halter tops, tube tops and midriff tops are not allowed. Midriffs, sides, and bust lines must be covered.
9. Bracelets, belts, and other clothing and accessories with spikes, studs, or chains are not allowed.
10. **Insignias, buttons, and clothing which are suggestive of wine, beer, whiskey, tobacco, vulgarities and violence, or drug-related, or are demeaning to other persons may not be allowed.**
11. Jeans and other articles of clothing must be clean with absolutely no rips, holes, or ravel in jeans, slacks, or shorts. No patches except with same material.

12. Sweat pants and jogging pants are allowed as long as they are properly fitted. Leggings may be only worn with skirts, dresses, and jumpers. They cannot be worn as slacks. Pajamas may not be worn to school unless it is a special “dress-up” day.
13. Articles of clothing must be appropriate for school wear. Students in grades K-4 may wear shorts, skirts, and dresses appropriate for school. **Any apparel worn by students in grades 5-12 must be worn at the waist and to the knee cap.**
14. Clothing shall not be so tight or so loose as to be overly revealing, a disruption to the school environment or a safety concern.
15. Shoes appropriate to the school setting must be worn at all times. No skate shoes allowed.
16. Book bags with rollers will be allowed with the size requirement of 20 inches by 15 inches for those students having a doctor’s statement showing a need.
17. Student possession of beepers, portable telephones, radios, headphones, or any other electronic device is not allowed.

Any student who fails to dress appropriately will not be allowed to attend class until proper clothes can be secured. If necessary, parents will be called to bring proper clothes to school. Until proper clothing can be secured, the student will be isolated and will be responsible for all class work missed. Nonconformity to the dress code is a Class I offense with the exception of #17 in which is considered Class II Offense.