

Opelika City Schools STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Opelika City Board of Education and administration recognize the effect that student dress and grooming have upon student behavior and commitment to learning. The Board and administration further recognize the role of parents in assisting their children in making appropriate choices regarding clothing, accessories, and personal appearance. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, it is required that all students exercise good taste with regard to their personal appearance. Attire considered disruptive or that could present a health or safety problem is not appropriate.

Any clothing, appearance, or personal hygiene and grooming practices that draw an inordinate amount of attention to the individual student are considered inappropriate for school. The dress and/or grooming style of any student must not interfere with the educational process of other students.

Students must be neat and clean at all times. An unkempt or sloppy appearance is not appropriate in the learning environment of school.

Shirts must be tucked in at all times (Male Students). Belts must be visible at all times. **Grades K-2:** Our goal is to train these students to follow the dress code; however, being non-compliant will not result in disciplinary action.

Pants, shorts, and skirts that have belt loops must be worn at the waist and with a BELT. Pants, shorts, and skirts without belt loops must be worn at the waist and should fit properly. **Grades K-2:** Our goal is to train these students to follow the dress code; however, being non-compliant will not result in disciplinary action.

Pants worn too low, too long, too large, or too loose are not permitted. Pajama style pants, snap-aways, and sweatpants are prohibited.

Athletic type pants may be worn only during physical education classes. Athletic type pants include but are not limited to wind suit pants, nylon gym/athletic shorts, "Soffes", "Umbros", spandex, sweat pants, soccer shorts, and nylon warm-up suits.

Students are to wear clothing in the manner it is designed to be worn, i.e., clothing worn backward or inside out, and unfastened suspenders are not allowed.

Students are not to wear clothing that reveal the body in an inappropriate manner. (Examples: clothing which is too tight, too short, bare at the midriff, bare at the sides, sundresses, "spaghetti strap" type tops, tank tops, off-the-shoulder tops, low-cut front or back tops, sheer or see-through clothing, etc.). **Undergarments should be worn in an appropriate manner and should not be visible.** Clothes with holes that reveal the body in an inappropriate manner are not allowed.

Students may wear shorts to school under the following stipulations: Shorts must be hemmed. Old worn/torn, or other type cut-offs, athletic (gym), "Umbro" "Soffes", other nylon type, spandex, sweat type, tennis, or swimsuit type shorts are not allowed.

Student athletes may wear required game day attire previously approved by the sponsor and principal. (Cheerleaders, majorettes, band members, etc.)

Skirts, shorts, and dresses must be mid-thigh or longer in front and back. No slits or leg openings may be above mid-thigh. Whether the student is standing or sitting, the length of skirts and dresses must be appropriate. Spandex pants, leggings, leotards, etc., may be worn only when the article of clothing worn with them meets the mid-thigh requirement. **(Long T-shirts are not allowed.)** *These items will have variances that are appropriate to students in this age range for grades K-5.*

Facial and/or tongue jewelry is not allowed for males or females. Students are not to wear jewelry, ornaments, or accessories, i.e., excessively noisy jewelry and/or belts, that distract from the educational process or interfere with proper speech communication.

T-shirts or any other type clothing or personal item bearing a reference to firearms, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drugs, drug-related slogans, and/or any other wording, drawings, pictures, etc., which in any way can be interpreted as being "off-color," suggestive, obscene, offensive, or relating to violence, etc., are not permitted. "Gang" related slogans, names, apparel, etc., are not permitted in school or at any school-related activities. Gang related items include, but are not limited to, bandanas, washrags, doo rags, etc. These items are not to be worn or to hang from a pants pocket.

Caps, hats, bandanas, doo rags, sunglasses, or other headwear are not to be worn during the regular school day. Headbands, designed to maintain hair placement, will be allowed.

Outerwear (coats, sunglasses, gloves, etc.) is not to be worn in the building during normal school time unless temperature or individual medical problems dictate this to be appropriate. Sweatshirts and lightweight jackets are permitted.

All students are required to wear their hair in such a manner that is not considered unkempt, unclean, or impairing vision (spiked hair, clown like hair colors, etc.) Students should not wear excessive or distracting make-up, i.e., face paint.

Students are required to wear appropriate shoes to school at all times--no bare feet. House slippers, boots with chains, steel toes, or other metal reinforcements or decorations are not allowed.

Students in violation of the dress code will be required to change immediately. If this requires checking out, the absence is unexcused.

If any aspect of the Dress Code becomes a consistent problem, appropriate adjustments will be made by the administration to address the situation, adjustments will be made by the administration to address the situation.

The administration of Opelika City Schools maintains the absolute authority in making subjective judgments concerning student dress and personal appearance.

ADOPTED: November 27, 2007

REVISED: December 6, 2007