



DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS

Policy Code: 4050

The Franklin County Board of Education respects a student's right to choose his or her style of dress or appearance; however, students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness and compatibility with a good school environment. If a student's dress or lack of cleanliness is such that it constitutes a threat to health or safety, the principal or principal's designee may require the student and the student's parents to take appropriate action to remedy the situation. In addition, if a student's dress or appearance is so unusual, inappropriate or lacking in cleanliness that it clearly disrupts classroom or educational activities, the student will immediately be required to change his or her dress or appearance.

Student violations of this policy shall be handled by the principal or designee in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and the school's Student Handbook.

Principals will maintain guidelines to assist students in determining appropriate dress and appearance for school, copies of which will be made available to parents and students. Items listed below shall be included in all school guidelines and shall apply to all students at school or during a school sponsored activity. Reasonable accommodations will be made by the school principal or designee for those students who, because of religious belief, cultural heritage, or medical reason request a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. Reasonable accommodation shall be made by the principal for students involved in special duties, activities or projects approved by the school, including but not limited to athletics, vocational classes and projects, special events or other activities that would allow for non-conforming dress on a school campus or during a school activity.

- Clothing must be age appropriate, not disruptive to the teaching-learning process, and cannot be provocative, revealing, indecent, vulgar, or obscene.
- Hats, sweatbands, bandannas, or sunglasses will not be worn inside the school buildings.
- Shorts may be no higher than mid-thigh.
- Skirts and dresses must be no higher than three inches above the top of the knee.
- Shirts and blouses may not be tank top, spaghetti straps, or sleepwear.
- Clothing will not be allowed which promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or the use of controlled substances; depicts violence; is of a sexual nature; or is of a disruptive nature.

- Shirts and blouses must cover cleavage, the waist, midriff, and go past the waistline.
- Clothing is not to be sheer or mesh and cannot have excessive holes.
- No sagging pants are allowed. All pants should be worn at the waistline.
- Tight clothing such as knit or spandex-like clothing or overly tight pants are not allowed.
- Proper footwear is required. Shoes that have laces must be laced, tied, and fit. No flip-flops.
- Abnormal hair coloring or hair styles that disrupt classroom or educational activities will not be allowed.
- Undergarments are not to be visible.
- Clothing must be worn appropriately; for example, nothing may be worn inside-out or backwards, pant legs may not be rolled up, bib overalls must be fastened, belts must be buckled and worn at the waistline.
- Clothing articles commonly recognized as being related to a group or gang which provokes others to act violently or be intimidated by fear of violence shall not be worn on the campus on at any school activity.
- There shall be no jewelry affixed to a student's nose, tongue, lips, cheek, eyebrow or other areas of the student's body if the jewelry so worn disrupts classroom or educational activities.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-36, -47, -288, -307, -390, -391, -392

Adopted: December 10, 2001

Revised: September 12, 2011