Students shall dress and groom in a clean, neat and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school.

More specific guidelines appropriate for each level of school (elementary and middle) shall be developed by the superintendent.

When a student is dressed in a manner which is likely to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school, or in a manner that violates the developed guidelines, the principal shall take appropriate action, which may include suspension.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DRESS CODE**

- Pants must be worn at the waist, be appropriately sized, and of a safe length.
- Head apparel (such as hoods hats, etc.) must not be worn inside the school building, except for religious or medical reasons.
- Footwear is required and must be safe and appropriate for indoor or outdoor physical activity.
- Clothing or accessories may not display offensive, vulgar language or images, nor promote inappropriate and/or illegal products such as alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.
- For students in Grades 3-5, “Short shorts”, and skin tight outer material such as spandex are inappropriate attire. No shorts or skirts shorter than four (4) inches above the knee are allowed.
- Shirts, blouses and dresses must completely cover the abdomen, back and shoulders and skirts or tops must cover the waistband of pants, shorts or skirts with no midriff visible and must be no longer than waist-length.

The school administration reserves the right to determine whether a student’s attire and appearance are within the limits of decency, modesty, and safety. In matters of opinion, the judgment of the Principal/designee shall prevail. The Principal may allow exceptions for school-wide programs or special classroom activities. The school administration will administer appropriate consequences for policy infractions.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE**

- Pants must be worn at the waist, be appropriately sized, and of a safe length.
- Shirts, blouses and dresses must completely cover the abdomen, back and shoulders and skirts or tops must cover the waistband of pants, shorts or skirts with no midriff visible and must be no longer than wrist-length.
- Head apparel (such as hoods hats, etc.) must not be worn inside the school building, except for religious or medical reasons.
- Footwear is required and must be safe and appropriate for indoor or outdoor physical activity.
- Clothing and accessories such as backpacks, patches, jewelry, and notebooks may not display (1) racial or ethnic slurs/symbols; (2) gang affiliations; (3) vulgar, subversive, or
sexually suggestive language or images; nor promote inappropriate and/or illegal products such as alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.

- Skirts, dresses and shorts must be no shorter than four (4) inches above the knee.
- Sleepwear, pajamas and/or blankets cannot be worn in school.
- Clothing with tears or holes cannot be worn at school.
- Large, long and/or heavy chains shall not be worn at school.
- Sunglasses shall not be worn indoors at school except for health purposes.
- Facial jewelry including tongue piercings or nose rings shall not be worn at school.

The school administration reserves the right to determine whether a student's attire and appearance are within the limits of decency, modesty, and safety.

The Principal may allow exceptions for school-wide programs or special classroom activities.

School administrations will administer appropriate consequences for policy violations. Any student not attired in accordance with the policy shall be directed to correct the violation or spend the remainder of the day in in-school suspension (ISS). Repeat offenders shall be subject to additional measures which include parent conferences, in-school suspension, and out-of-school suspensions as described in the District-wide discipline policy.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-4215 ; TCA 49-1-302(j)

Cross References

Discipline Procedures 6.313
Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316