

Policy

DRESS CODE

Code JCDB Issued 3/16/22

District students are expected to dress, be groomed, and otherwise conduct themselves in such a way as to not distract or cause disruption to the educational program or orderly operation of the school. Personal appearance and conduct of students should promote health and safety, contribute to a climate conducive to teaching and learning, and project a positive image of the district to the community. School administrators will be responsible for determining violations of this policy. The principal reserves the right to amend any provisions that he/she deems to be in the best interest of the student or the educational process.

The administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of a student's clothing, appearance, and/or display of symbols, messages, or statements on school grounds and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any articles of clothing or other items or displaying any symbols, messages, or statements which lead to or may foreseeably result in the disruption of or interference with the school environment.

This policy applies to all students enrolled in Lancaster County schools. All students will adhere to this policy while attending classes, riding buses to and from school and participating in all official school functions, unless otherwise indicated by the school administration.

Clothing articles, and/or other displays should not be so extreme or inappropriate to the school setting as to disrupt the educational process. Therefore, any items deemed distracting, revealing, overly suggestive, or otherwise disruptive will not be permitted.

Wearing items that could pose a safety threat to one's self or others is not allowed. This includes heavy chains not made as jewelry, fishhooks, multiple-finger rings (rings welded together resembling brass knuckles or rings that can be used as a weapon), studded bracelets or collars, nose/lip to ear chains, etc. No medallions will be worn larger than the student's I.D. badge. Unusual body piercing that is disruptive to the order of the school, or is a distraction to the learning environment, will not be allowed. No wallet chains or other type chains that may be dangerous or disruptive will be allowed.

Attire, articles, and other items must not display or evidence membership or affiliation with a "gang" in any negative sense of the term. In determining whether or not a student is in violation of the prohibition on the wearing/display of a gang-related item, the District will maintain, in all of its school offices, an example of potential gang indicators including symbols, hand signals, graffiti, and clothing/accessories as stated in policy JAB, Secret Societies/Gang Activity. Attire, articles, or other items must not display any information about, representations of, or advertisements for, weapons, sex, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, controlled drugs or illegal drugs, or paraphernalia associated with the foregoing. Bandanas and do rags are not allowed on campus and will be confiscated. The wearing of hats and/or sunglasses is not allowed in school buildings.

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Picks or combs are not allowed in hair. Hair items such as plastic headbands, barrettes, and ribbons are permitted. Religious head gear is allowed. School administrators will not be held liable for confiscated items.

Clothing, articles, or other items which display symbols, messages, or statements which would distract others, interfere with the instructional programs, or otherwise cause disruption, are prohibited.

Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times to ensure safety. Covered toe shoes must be worn in labs and designated shop areas, etc.

Attire must not be immodest, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, or indecent.

Lower garments should be of adequate length to assure modesty when the student is seated or engaged in school activities. Shorts and skirts must be long enough to extend below the extended fingertips of the wearer or two inches above the knee. Any slits in the garment must open below the fingertips.

Pants must be worn at the natural waistline and undergarments are not to be visible. If they do not fit properly, a belt must be worn to keep them in place. Pants and slacks must not touch the floor (no bagging, sagging, or dragging clothing), as it becomes a safety hazard.

Sleeveless attire cannot reveal undergarments. Shirts cannot be tight (excessively form fitting), low cut, or show cleavage. Tank tops, halter tops, and shirts with spaghetti straps will not be allowed. No transparent or mesh clothing will be allowed without an appropriate shirt underneath.

No exposed undergarments will be allowed. Clothing must cover the waist, shoulders, and back with no skin showing between the top garment and bottom garment.

Students may not continue to attend class wearing inappropriate clothing, articles, or display of items as defined in this policy. Neither parents/legal guardians nor students will place the burden of enforcing this policy solely on the school.

Parents/Legal guardians and students are expected to comply to ensure that a comfortable, safe, and non-confrontational environment is provided for all students. Administrators and faculty members are expected to strictly enforce this policy at all times.

Violations

Violations of this policy will result in the following:

- In the event the administration determines a student's dress, articles, or display of items is inappropriate for school in accordance with this policy, the administration will require the student to remove the articles or items, turn inappropriate clothing inside out, or change inappropriate clothing and make alternate clothing available for the student to wear.

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- If, upon request, the student refuses to follow the directive of the administration in accordance with this policy, the student will be sent to ISS and the parent/legal guardian will be contacted.
- The school administration will determine the amount of lost instructional time a student must make up due to being out of class for violations of this policy. The instructional time will be made up after school and at the financial expense of the student's parent/legal guardian for a certified teacher to remain and instruct the student. Failure to do so may result in a student repeating the course(s).
- Repeated violations of this policy will be treated as disruptive behavior in violation of the student code of conduct; however, violations of this policy will not carry over on the student's discipline record to subsequent years.

Adopted 3/16/10; Revised 3/15/22

Legal references:

- A. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:
 - 1. Section 59-19-90(3) – Authority to regulate student conduct