

# Henrico County Public Schools

## Student Dress Code

While most students dress appropriately and safely for school, the School Board and school staff rely on students and parents to exercise judgment in promoting modesty, decency, and a sense of decorum so as not to disrupt the learning environment. School climate has a direct influence on student achievement, and the manner in which students dress is a significant factor in school climate.

This dress code will assist parents and students as they make decisions regarding daily attire that contribute to an appropriate, safe, and secure learning environment for all students. Students must dress modestly and in a manner that neither distracts from nor substantially disrupts the learning environment. In support of the Code of Conduct Dress Code, a student's appearance that is disruptive, distracting, or hazardous is prohibited.

The administration of each elementary, middle and high school has the authority to notify students and parents of modifications to the dress code for spirit days and other school celebrations, as particular items pose a disruption, or as other circumstances warrant.

Students may not wear the following items unless otherwise stated:

1. Hoods, hats, or head coverings of any kind inside school buildings during regular school hours, unless required for religious or medical reasons.
2. The following items worn on school grounds during regular school hours: bandanas, do-rags, headscarves, hair picks, wave caps, large combs, brushes, and rollers.
3. Sunglasses inside the school building unless prescribed by a physician.
4. Dresses, skirts, shorts, athletic shorts, and other similar clothing that are shorter than four inches above the knee even when worn with leggings or tights.
5. Messages on clothing, chains, jewelry and personal belongings that pertain to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, gangs, vulgarity or that could reasonably cause a substantial disruption to the learning environment.
6. Spiked jewelry, chains, and items that could cause student injury.
7. Beachwear (which includes bathing suits and trunks) and sleepwear.
8. Clothing that reveals undergarments.
9. Cut-off jeans and cut-off sweat pants or torn, ripped, or slashed clothing that reveals undergarments or body parts excluded by other parts of this code.
10. Bedroom slippers or shoes with wheels also known as "wheelies."
11. Clothing that reveals the midriff while sitting or standing.
12. Clothing that is excessively tight or skimpy, including biker pants and clothing with plunging necklines.
13. Clothing that is see-through, revealing, or resembles undergarments.
14. Tube tops, halter-tops, halter-top dresses, strapless dresses or tops or dresses with spaghetti straps (female tops must be at least two inches wide at the shoulder).
15. High heels or flip flops at the elementary level (elementary students are encouraged to wear athletic shoes or closed toe shoes with a rubber sole and should wear such shoes for Physical Education and recess.).
16. Coats inside the school building during the school day as determined by the administrative staff depending on the school design and administrative ability to provide storage for coats.

Students must wear clothing as designed (buttoned, zippered, etc.). Students must wear pants on the hips, secured above the buttocks. Students may not:

1. Drape towels, shirts or shorts around the neck;
2. Roll down waistbands on shorts, pants, and skirts;
3. Wear clothing in any manner that reveals undergarments at any time;
4. Wear athletic basketball jerseys without wearing a t-shirt beneath the jersey;

## **Recommended Dispositions-Elementary School**

*The administrative team in each school shall have discretion regarding dress code decisions. Parents of students who violate the dress code will be contacted to provide appropriate clothing for their children, if necessary.*

## **Recommended Dispositions-Middle School**

*The administrative team in each school shall have discretion regarding dress code decisions.*

*Students who violate the dress code will face disciplinary consequences. All middle schools will follow these disciplinary guidelines:*

*1<sup>st</sup> Offense - Warning with Opportunity to Change Clothes to Correct Dress Code Violation; Parent Notification*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - Administrative After-School Detention*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - One (1) Day In-School Suspension*

*Continued infractions will result in additional consequences.*

## **Recommended Dispositions-High School**

*The administrative team in each school shall have discretion regarding dress code decisions.*

*Students who violate the dress code will face disciplinary consequences. All high schools will follow these disciplinary guidelines:*

*1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Warning with Opportunity to Change Clothes or Correct Dress Code Violation; Parent Notification*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Saturday Detention or One (1) Day In-School Suspension;*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – One (1) Day Out of School Suspension*

*Continued infractions will result in additional consequences.*

Approved:

Henrico County Public Schools

Board of Education

June 18, 2009