

## Chapter 9: Dress Code

### A. Requirements for Student Dress

The dress and grooming of students shall be that which contributes to the health and safety of the individual and which is non-disruptive of the educational activities and processes of a school. The definition of appropriate dress shall vary with the age of the student and the program of instruction.

**Students have the right:** to dress as they choose as long as their dress meets the approved dress and grooming regulations, does not disrupt school activities, is not obscene or defamatory, and does not endanger the physical health or safety of themselves or others.

**Students have the responsibility:** to dress and groom in such a manner so as to reflect cleanliness, modesty, safety, good taste, and to become familiar with and adhere to the approved dress and grooming regulations of the Escambia County School District.

#### **Dress and Grooming Regulations**

##### **Sixth – Twelfth Grades:**

1. Shoes shall be worn. Shoes with wheels and bedroom slippers are unacceptable and not allowed. Tennis shoes/athletic shoes are required to participate in physical education.
2. Tube tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, or similar type of clothing may only be worn with a blouse or shirt. Clothing exposing the torso or the midriff, either front, back, or sides shall not be worn. Underwear shall not be visible. Clothing shall not expose the mid-chest area. All clothing must be properly fastened. Clothing with tears above the hemline must be worn with an article of clothing underneath. Clothing traditionally designed as undergarments or sleepwear shall not be worn as outer garments. All pants and shorts shall be secured at the waist. Hemlines shall be no shorter than fingertip length for all shorts, skirts, skorts, and dresses. In addition, when leggings are worn, a top garment is required and shall be no shorter than fingertip length around the entire circumference of the article of clothing with relaxed shoulders.
3. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Head coverings shall not be worn in the building unless required for religious observance or health-related reasons.
4. Items including, but not limited to, garments, symbols, and/or jewelry that display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, gang, violence, or alcohol-related wording or graphics, or that provoke or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in the school, shall not be worn. Wallet chains shall not be worn.

The following exceptions to the dress code shall be permitted when:

1. A student wears a costume or special clothing necessary for a school play or other school-sponsored activity as permitted by the principal.

2. A student wears clothing in the intended manner of a nationally recognized youth organization on regular meeting days.
3. A student wears clothing that reflects his/her sincerely held religious belief. Parents/guardians are urged to contact the principal/designee immediately regarding any religious dress requirements.
4. A student wears a button, armband, or other accoutrement to exercise the right of free speech guaranteed by the United States' and Florida Constitutions. \*No buttons, armbands, or other accouterments that signify or are related to gangs, gang membership, gang activity, discrimination on the basis of gender, gender identity/expression, age, race, religious creed, color, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, or disability will be permitted.

#### B. Discipline for Infractions

A student's failure to adhere to the provisions of the student dress code as set forth above shall constitute a violation of student dress code and shall be subject to discipline as follows:

**First Offense** – The student shall be given a verbal warning, and the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent/guardian.

**Second Offense** – The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed five (5) days, and the school principal or designee shall meet with the student's parent/guardian.

**Third and Subsequent Offenses** – The student shall receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed three (3) days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, and the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent/guardian and send the parent/guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities. 1006.07(2)(d), F.S.