

2018-19 Mahanoy Area School District Dress Code

DRESS CODE POLICY No. 221

Getting an education is one of the most important jobs you will ever have. The way you dress can affect attitude, performance, behavior, as well as that of others. Any form of dress that attracts undue attention, is unsafe, disrupts school, or detracts from the learning process is not acceptable. Good judgement would indicate that certain types of clothing are inappropriate in the school setting. Students are expected to dress responsibly for school. The school insists upon decency, cleanliness, and appropriateness of dress at all times.

*** All articles of clothing must be free of any reference to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, obscenities, violence, sex, gang insignia/references, or that contains a statement which is derogatory.**

Tops

- Golf shirts (short or long sleeve), t-shirts (short of long sleeve), turtlenecks or mock turtlenecks, button down dress shirts (short or long sleeve, with or without breast front pockets), or blouses (short or long sleeve) are the only approved shirts to be worn.
- Only the top-most button of any shirt may be unbuttoned. The necks of tops should not fall below the collar bone.
- Layering of tops is permitted as long as the outermost layer meets all dress code provisions.
- Shirts must be sized to fit the student (i.e. +/- 1 size to the student's measurements).
- Shirts may **not** have holes or frays.
- Shirts will not be see through, reveal an undergarment, or midriff.
- Cold Shoulder Shirts are **not** allowed.

Bottoms

- Students may wear jeans, dresses, jumpers, pants, capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts.
- Jeans, dresses and jumpers, pants, capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts must be sized to fit the student (i.e. +/- 1 size to the student's measurements). Capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts must be worn at the waist and extend to the knee.
- Yoga pants, pajama pants, athletic/mesh pants/shorts may **not** be worn.
- Leggings and tights may only be worn under an approved dress, skirt, skort, or jumper. They may not be worn as pants.
- Side pockets **not** on the legs of any style of jeans, dresses, jumpers, pants, capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts are not permitted.
- Pants, jeans, dresses, jumpers, and skirts may not drag on the floor.
- Pants, jeans, dresses, jumpers, capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts may not reveal undergarments at any time.
- Pants, jeans, dresses, jumpers, capris, shorts, skorts, and skirts may not have holes or frays.

Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Vests, Fleece and Blazers

- Students may wear sweatshirts, sweaters, vests, fleece, and blazers.
- Sweatshirts, sweaters, vests, fleece, and blazers must be sized to fit the student (i.e. +/- 1 size to the student's measurements).
- Only small side pockets are permitted. Front pockets are **not** permitted.
- Hoods are **not** permitted.
- Coats, scarves, or any other outerwear are **not** allowed to be worn during the school day.

Shoes, Sandals, Boots, or Sneakers

- Shoes, sandals, boots and sneakers must at least have a secured strap in the back.
- Shoes, sandals, boots and sneakers must not exceed a 2-inch heel
- Any backless footwear is not permitted.
- All laces, buckles, Velcro, etc. must be tied/secured at all times.
- Exceptions can be approved by administration for formal events.

Accessories, Piercings, Tattoos, Hair

- Any color or style backpack may be carried into the building provided it is left inside the student's locker or elementary homeroom. However, only clear backpacks can be carried throughout the school day.
- Purses may be carried as long as they are **not** more than five (5) inches by seven (7) inches.
- Hats, handkerchiefs, hair picks, or bandanas are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Headbands across the forehead are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Sunglasses are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Gloves (with or without fingers) and mittens are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Arm or wrist bands are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Dog collars or any kind of jewelry or belts-with studs, rivets or spikes are **not** allowed to be worn inside the school.
- Anything that could reasonably be deemed dangerous may **not** be worn inside the school.
- The length or style of a student's hair may not constitute a health or safety hazard, nor may it cause undue disruption of the learning process.
- Any student piercing that is deemed disruptive to the educational process will need to be removed.
- Offensive tattoos (i.e. depicting drugs, smoking, sex, etc.) must be covered at all times.
- Exceptions can be approved by administration for formal events.

Physical Education Dress

- Acceptable physical education pants include shorts (including mesh), sweatpants, and athletic/wind pants.
- All shorts, sweatpants, and athletic/wind pants must be worn at the waist.
- All shorts, sweatpants, and athletic/wind pants must extend to at least knee length.
- Side pockets on the legs are not permitted.
- Pants may not drag on the floor.
- Acceptable shirts include short or long sleeve t-shirts in any color.
- Sneakers and socks must also be worn by all students for physical education.
- Elementary students (K-6) should come to school dressed in approved physical education attire only on those days that the student is scheduled for physical education class.

Exemptions

- For the safety and welfare of everyone, teachers may limit the kind of clothing or accessories that may be worn by students in classes such as physical education, science laboratories, consumer science, and technology education class.
- Principals have the right to make short-term, specific exceptions to the standard dress code for unique situations to include but not limited to pregnancies or physical impairments.

- Parents/Guardians who object to the policy based on religious or medical grounds must present to the building principal a signed letter detailing the reason for the objection. The parent/guardian and the building principal will meet to discuss the exemption.
- The Administration may designate specific days throughout the year as Dress Down Days. These days shall be at the discretion of the Building Principal and may include a fee to benefit student programming, school committees, special events, and/or charities. These days may also be specific to certain school buildings.
- The Administration reserves the right to deem clothing inappropriate or distracting to the educational process.

Disciplinary Actions

- **First Offense:** Student will be permitted to call home for appropriate clothing. Student may borrow clothing from Cinderella's closet. If no appropriate clothing is brought to school, student will be sent to ISS for the remainder of the day.
- **Second Offense:** Student will be permitted to call home for appropriate clothing. Student may borrow clothing from Cinderella's closet. If no appropriate clothing is brought to school, student will be sent to ISS. Student will be assigned a detention.
- **Third Offense:** Student will be permitted to call home for appropriate clothing. Student may borrow clothing from Cinderella's closet. If no appropriate clothing is brought to school, student will be sent to ISS. Student will be assigned a detention. A parent conference will be requested.
- **Fourth Offense:** Student will be sent directly to ISS for the remainder of the day. The student will serve the following day of ISS.
- **Subsequent Offenses:** Student will be sent to ISS for the remainder of the school day. The student will be also assigned OSS.