

DOTHAN CITY SCHOOLS
STUDENT DRESS/UNIFORM CODE
Grades K – 12

DRESS /UNIFORM CODE

It is the policy of the Board of Education that good grooming and personal appearance are essential, if not critical, elements in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it is expected that students dress in such a manner that will ensure the health and safety of the school. Furthermore, the dress and personal appearance will not be disruptive or interfere with the legitimate interest and welfare of students. Students are also expected to choose their clothes in good taste, wearing only those clothes, which are appropriate for the educational environment.

All students are expected to comply with the Dress/Uniform Code. For compelling reasons, such as medical requirements, the principal or superintendent, may, at their discretion, review an individual situation to determine whether a modification of a provision is required for the health and safety of a particular student or other compelling reason.

The School Administration will judge the appropriateness of any “fad” or questionable article of apparel.

With this in mind, the following rules concerning dress and grooming are mandatory for all students attending Dothan City Schools. Students who fail to follow these rules will be subject to disciplinary action.

TOPS FOR MALES AND FEMALES

Students may wear any shirt color as long as it is a solid color. If the color of the shirt is perceived by the administrator and/or teacher to be a distraction to others, the student shall be asked to replace it with an approved shirt. The shirt must have at least two buttons and must be: button front oxford, polo, turtleneck, or blouse-type shirts with sleeves (long sleeves or short sleeves).

- All shirts/blouses must have collars. Examples include, but are not limited to: **team promotion, club promotion, extra-curricular promotion, promotion of the school** in general. Only shirts with the approved school logo and/or colors will be allowed. No homemade shirts. School spirit or Dothan High Wolves shirts (t-shirts) may be allowed (per principal discretion).
- Shirts that are not promoting the school attended as described above may have a small unobtrusive logo. All tops must be tucked in as part of the uniform. (K-1st, preferred but optional)
- Undershirts may be worn but must be a solid color with no logo or wording. A t-shirt is considered an undershirt.

BOTTOMS (KHAKE IS DEFINED AS LIGHT TAN IN COLOR)

Males: Khaki, black, or navy blue pants or shorts. Shorts must be no more than four (4) inches above the knee and no more than two inches below the knee. Stretch pants, yoga pants are not permitted.

Females: Khaki, black, or navy blue pants, shorts, skorts, capris, skirts, or jumpers are permitted.

- All pants, shorts, skorts, and capris must be secured at the waist and cannot “sag”. Stretch pants and yoga pants are not permitted.
- Shorts, skorts, skirts, and jumpers must be no more than four (4) inches above the knee in the front and back.
- Blouses and shirts must be worn with jumpers.

SHOES

Tennis shoes (sneakers) and/or fully enclosed shoes are required in elementary schools.

Sandals may be worn in grades 7-12, however, straps must be fastened around back of ankle.

- All laces must be tied and laces must be both of the same color.
- The style and color of shoes should be sensible and appropriate for school attire.
- Heels shall be no more than 2 inches in height.

LEGWEAR

- Socks – Any color or style
- Hosiery (to include tights) –hosiery and leggings must be worn with bottoms such as: jumpers, pants, shorts, skirts or skorts.

BELTS

- School Administrators may require belts in grades 2 –12 if he/she deems necessary. This may be required of students who do not comply with the “sagging” rule.
- If belts are worn, they must be in the appropriate length with a small to medium buckle.

OUTERWEAR

Coats, jackets, sweaters, sweater vests and zippered/open front sweatshirts are considered as outerwear, and must be worn with a uniform shirt/blouse. Sweater vests may be any color as long as it is a solid color. If the color of the sweater vest is perceived by the administrator and/or teacher to be a distraction to others, the student will be asked to replace it with an approved sweater vest. Sweatshirts may be any color as long as it is a solid color. If the color is perceived by the administrator and/or teacher to be a distraction to others, the student will be asked to replace it with an approved sweatshirt. Sweaters, sweater vests and sweatshirts must not be oversized (bulky or baggy).

- Sweatshirts and/or jackets may have a hood. The hood may not be worn inside or outside on campus unless permission is given by the administrator. Hoods are not allowed while being transported on school buses.
- Outerwear of school – sponsored organizations is acceptable. (athletic jackets, band jackets, etc.)
- Uniform tops must be worn under all outerwear.

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED TO BE WORN BY STUDENTS

Wind pants/sweatpants, velour pants and tops, over-sized clothing, excessively tight clothing, overalls, bellbottoms, unhemmed clothing, clothing with cuts, slits, holes or slashes, denim or jean fabric bottoms, sleeveless tops, overcoats, trench coats, bicycle shorts, stretch knit/spandex pants, yoga pants, stretch pants, lace or nylon skirts are not to be worn by students.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE STUDENT UNIFORM DRESS CODE

Students will be allowed to “dress up” for the following activities which may include but not be limited to:

- School Picture Day and Spring Picture Day (All Schools)
- Week of High and High School and Homecoming Activities (theme Dress-Up Days)
- School Spirit Days

If students do not participate in the “dress up” activity, the approved school uniform dress will be required.

EACH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL MAY DESIGNATE DAYS OR EVENTS DURING WHICH DEVIATIONS FROM THE APPROVED UNIFORM DRESS CODE WILL BE PERMITTED PROVIDED THE PRINCIPAL DETERMINES THAT SUCH EXCEPTIONS WILL FACILITATE THE EVENT, PROMOTE SCHOOL SPIRIT, OR OTHERWISE SERVE AN EDUCATIONAL INTEREST.

GENERAL INFORMATION

In addition to the uniform dress code requirements previously listed, the following guidelines will also apply.

- All clothing must be properly fitted. Sagging and excessively tight clothing are prohibited.
- Any article that draws undue attention or disrupts classes will not be allowed such as large jewelry.
- Combs and picks are not to be worn in the hair.
- Males and females are not allowed to wear hats, head coverings, hoods, sports headbands, or ear muffs inside the buildings. Bandanas and du-rags of any color are not to be worn on any part of the body nor carried in or tied on book bags or other bags.
- Students who transfer from other school districts will be given five (5) days to come into compliance with the school uniform dress code.
- **Any student’s dress or personal appearance that the administration believes is disruptive and interferes with a safe and secure learning environment will be dealt with on an individual basis. School administrators will use their discretion to determine the appropriateness of a student’s dress.**

HEALTH and SAFETY

- Students will not wear dark glasses inside the school building, unless required to do so for medical reasons pursuant to doctor's written orders.
- Hair should be clean and out of the student's eyes. Hairstyles should be neat and appropriate. **Unnatural hair** coloring that causes a distraction in the learning environment is prohibited.
- Body piercing jewelry is restricted to ears only for boys and girls.
- No "grills/grillz" on campus or at school sponsored activities.
- No binding pant legs or any other article of clothing.

COMMON COURTESY

- No hats, caps, hoods, or head coverings in the building or on the school bus.
- No bandanas on campus or at school sponsored activities.

DECENCY and MODESTY

- No decals, slogans, or sayings on clothing and/or personal items that contain references to illegal or immoral behaviors. Decals, slogans, or sayings that advertise alcohol, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, weapons, gangs, or tobacco products are not allowed. Anything that promotes racial division or violence is not allowed.
- No lewd or vulgar sayings on clothing and/or personal items will be allowed.
- Shirt tails must be tucked in. Pants must be worn at the waist and belts may be required. (Principals have discretion over this rule.)
- Students will not be allowed to wear clothing and/or have any personal items on campus that is part of an organizational initiation.
- **Any other improper or indecent clothing or personal item which in the discretion of the building principal is indecent immodest, distracting, or constitutes a danger will not be allowed.**

Discipline for Dress/Uniforms Code Violations

Elementary

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| 1 st Offense | Call parent/change clothes |
| 2 nd Offense | Call parent/change clothes |
| 3 rd Offense | ISS/Detention 1 Day |
| 4 th Offense | Refer to 299 |

Secondary

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| 1 st Offense | Call parent/change clothes; if clothes can't be changed, the student will go to ISS |
| 2 nd Offense | Call parent/change clothes; if clothes can't be changed, the student will go to ISS |
| 3 rd Offense | Call parent/change clothes; 2 days OSS |
| 4 th Offense | Refer to 299 |