

LEVELLAND ISD

Student Dress Code

Introduction/Purpose:

This dress code is intended to: (1) teach students grooming and hygiene; (2) create and maintain a respectful and positive learning environment; (3) prevent the disruption, interference with, or detraction from the educational environment and school activities; and (4) minimize health and safety hazards.

Students and parents share responsibility for complying with the District's dress code and should be aware of dress code provisions.

Enforcement:

Teachers and administrators have the authority to enforce the dress code.

Note: This dress code provides guidance regarding common situations but cannot cover every style of dress and specific situations that may arise. The District reserves the right to prohibit any clothing or grooming style that the administration determines to be reasonably expected to pose a health or safety hazard or to cause substantial disruption of, distraction from, or interference with general school operations. In addition, extracurricular programs may have additional requirements or guidelines for students participating in those programs.

Violations:

If a student fails to comply with the dress code, the campus administrator will request that the student make the appropriate corrections. This may include changing into clothing provided by the school.

If the student refuses to make the appropriate corrections, the student's parent/guardian will be contacted for assistance in making the necessary corrections. If both the student and parent/guardian refuse, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. Repeated violations of the dress code will result in more serious disciplinary action. In all cases, appropriate disciplinary action will be administered in compliance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Dress and Grooming Guidelines:

I. General Guidelines

The following items are prohibited:

1. Articles of clothing with pictures, emblems, symbols, slogans, or writings that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, obscene, contain sexual innuendoes, or cause disruption to the educational process are prohibited (e.g., "I heart boobies").
2. Articles of clothing that advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, controlled substances, sexually oriented products, or other outlawed items are prohibited.
3. See-through attire is unacceptable unless an article of clothing is worn underneath the garment that complies with the dress code. At no time should undergarments be visible.
4. Any clothing with holes or frays exposing skin above mid-thigh is prohibited.
5. Students may not wear boxers, pajamas, or other sleepwear as outerwear [except on campus approved days].
6. All articles of clothing must be worn as it is designed to be worn (i.e. not backwards or inside out) [except on campus approved days].

II. Shirts and Dress Tops

1. Shirts must be worn at all times while in the classroom, on school grounds, or at school-related or school-sponsored events.
2. Shirts and dress tops must have sleeves that extend to the shoulders of the student (No tank tops, muscle shirts, or cut-off sleeves).
3. Shirts and dress tops may not fall more than two inches below the collar bone unless another code-compliant top is worn underneath.
4. The back of shirts and dress tops will be no lower than the top of the armpits.
5. Armholes may not show undergarments.
6. Undergarments should not be visible.
7. Shirts with a uniform length will not have to be tucked into pants as long as the length of the shirt is not longer than the wrist area of the arm when the arm is down by the student's side. All shirts with non-uniform length or shirttails must be tucked into pants.
8. Shirts must be long enough to cover the midriff, even when arms are raised over the student's head.

9. Leotards and tube tops are prohibited.

III. Pants, Shorts, Capris, Skirts, Skorts, or Dresses

1. Shorts, skirts, skorts, or dresses must reach mid-thigh or longer. The same standard applies to slits or slashes in skirts or dresses.
2. All must fit over the hips at the waist.
3. Undergarments should not be visible.
4. Pants may not sag or bag at the waist.
5. No baggy or sagging oversized clothing is allowed.
6. Leggings will be allowed for students as long as the blouse or top completely covers the buttocks area and is the same length in the front as it is in the back.
7. Biker shorts are prohibited.

IV. Footwear

1. For reasons of health and safety, shoes must be worn at all times.
2. The following footwear is prohibited due to health or safety concerns:
 - a. House shoes.
 - b. Roller shoes.
 - c. Steel toe shoes.
3. Certain classes require students to wear certain types of footwear. For example, athletic shoes are required for physical education classes and closed toe shoes may be required for science/chemistry.

V. Hair and Head Wear

1. Hairstyles or designs that are disruptive or distracting to the school environment are prohibited (i.e. mohawks, rattails, dreadlocks, patterns or shavings in the hair, or spikes).
2. Hair must be of a natural hair color.
3. Notching of the eyebrows is prohibited.

Males:

- a. Hair will not fall below the top of the eyebrow. Hair length on the sides or back of the head will not be longer than the top of the shirt collar.

- b. Sideburns may not exceed the bottom of the earlobe.
 - c. Males may not wear any length of ponytails or braids.
 - d. Afro hairstyles may not exceed more than three inches.
 - e. Full beards are prohibited. Mustaches and goatees must be neatly trimmed.
4. Hats, caps, sweatbands, scarves, bandanas, visors, or other head coverings are prohibited in the classroom or school building except on approved occasions.
 5. Hair curlers or hair rollers are prohibited.
 6. Students may not wear hair picks, combs, or brushes in their hair.

VI. Jewelry and Accessories

1. Earrings may not be worn by male students.
2. Earrings are permitted for females only. Earrings include clip earrings, pierced earrings or studs, or any item used as a post in a pierced ear.
3. Facial piercing of any kind is prohibited.
4. Tongue rings or studs are prohibited.
5. Studded and spiked jewelry (i.e. dog collars) is prohibited.
6. Jewelry that causes a distraction or that could be dangerous to the student or other individuals is prohibited (i.e. necklaces made out of safety pins and chain links).
7. Pocket or wallet chains are prohibited due to safety concerns.
8. Mouth grills or mouth pieces that are worn over a student's teeth that serve only a decorative purpose are prohibited.
9. Tattoos that are lewd, vulgar, or depict profanity or prohibited items (i.e. alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products) must be covered at all times while in the classroom, on school grounds, or at school activities or school sponsored events.
10. Contacts that are an unnatural eye color (i.e. purple), "Wild Eye" contacts, or contacts that alter the normal shape and look of the pupil are prohibited.
11. Sunglasses or other eyewear that is not for a medical reason is prohibited from being worn inside school buildings [except on campus approved days].

VII. Coats or Winter Weather Attire

1. All winter weather attire must comply with dress code provisions.

VIII. Exceptions to Dress Code:

1. Medical conditions may qualify for an exception from certain dress and grooming policies. However, any exceptions must receive prior approval by the campus administrator and be supported by documentation from a physician.
2. Certain recognized religious or spiritual beliefs may qualify for an exception from provisions of the dress code. However, any exceptions must receive prior approval by the campus administrator.
3. Certain extracurricular activities or events (i.e.: prom, banquets) may qualify students for an exception, when appropriate, from provisions of the dress code. However, any exceptions to the dress code must receive prior approval by the campus administrator.

Any questions about the dress code or whether or not specific items of clothing are permitted, should be addressed to the campus administrator or the Director of Personnel and Administrative Services at 894-9628.