

Dress and Grooming

(All Grade Levels)

The district's dress code teaches grooming and hygiene, prevents disruption, minimizes safety hazards, and maintains a positive learning climate. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

- **Dress Length & Style** – Garments shall be mid-thigh or longer in length. They must be longer than the fingertips when relaxed arms are extended by the student's side. Dresses that are cut low in the front are not to be worn to school.

- **Earrings** – Pierced ears are allowed, but all other body piercing jewelry is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from wearing gauging tools in ears.

- **Facial Hair** – All facial hair must be kept neat and groomed.

- **Hairstyles** – Extreme hairstyles and hair color will not be permitted. Hair must be neat, clean and out of the eyes. Any hair color or style that causes undue attention to the wearer will not be permitted.

- **Hats, Caps and Hoodies** – Hats and caps are not allowed on campus. Hoods are not to be worn.

- **Pajamas or undergarments worn as an outer garment** will not be permitted.

- **Pants/Shorts** – Must be worn at the waistline. In addition, pants and shorts must fit at the waist, and be longer than the fingertips when relaxed arms are extended by the student's side. No chains or metal hardware allowed. No holes or tears above mid-thigh are acceptable unless worn over leggings or tights.

- **Shirts** – Shirts and other clothing that display or imply obscene or distasteful slogans or advertise tobacco, drugs, alcohol or weapons may not be worn. Shirt shoulder seams must fit on the shoulder. Shirt/blouses must cover at least 2 inches of the shoulder on each side. Garments with bare midriffs may not be worn. Wearing a jacket over a shirt that is not dress code appropriate will not be allowed. Low-cut shirts or blouses are not to be worn to school.

- **Shoes** – Students must wear shoes at all times while on campus. No slippers.

- **Tattoos** – Tattoos must not be visible

- Any dress/grooming/appearance standard not described in the dress code above that is judged by the campus principal or his/her designee to be disruptive or unsafe may be addressed as a violation of the dress code. Any gang indicator or gang related clothing or accessories, as identified by the Port Arthur Police Department Gang Task Force, or any local law enforcement, is a violation of the dress code.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school and return to the classroom. If the problem cannot be corrected at school, the principal will work with the student and parent to obtain an acceptable change of clothing for the student in a way that minimizes loss of instructional time. Repeated or severe offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.