

STUDENT APPEARANCE & DRESS CODE

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of students enrolled in the Todd County School District primarily rests with parents/guardians and the students themselves. However, some student apparel may not be appropriate to wear to school even though that same apparel may be appropriate to wear in other settings. In general, students shall not dress or groom themselves in a manner, that causes a disruption to the orderly operation of the school.

Our main purpose as an educational institution is to assist students in presenting themselves in a manner that promotes a positive and productive school environment, personal pride, and academic success. The school, as a center of learning, shall provide for the development of habits and attitudes conducive to acceptable wearing apparel, and good grooming. Wearing apparel shall not be of the type, that would detract from the primary purpose of the school, which is academic instruction, nor shall accessories carried by children to school be disrupting to the conduct of the school or hazardous to student welfare.

Visible body markings such as hickeys are not acceptable and must be covered. Student's dress shall be modest, neat, clean, and in keeping with health, sanitary, and safety practices.

For student safety, all students who attend Todd County Middle School, or Todd County High School are required to show their school generated identification badges upon entry and encouraged to wear them during the school day. Badges must be visually and appropriately displayed.

Students are required to wear appropriate clothing as set forth in this Policy. The Board adopted "Dress Code Policy" is based on the situation and the grade level of the students. Inappropriate clothing and appearance are disruptive to the school program and Principal's or Principal designees shall enforce compliance with this policy by those students within their jurisdiction.

The Principal or the Principal's designee has the final authority for interpreting whether a student's apparel conforms to the dress code. When it is determined that a student's clothing does not comply with the dress code, a parent/guardian will be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothes to school. The student may, with parental/guardian permission, be sent home in order to change clothes. If the student is unable to change into appropriate clothing, the school will provide school issued top and bottoms for the student to change into; ample time will be given for the student to change back into their

personal clothing at the end of the school day. In addition, the student will also receive a disciplinary consequence for violating the school's dress code policy.

General Dress Code Policy Requirements:

- Students shall wear clothing of appropriate size as determined by the Principal or Principal's designee.
- Shirts or blouses are not required to be tucked into the waistband of the pants, shorts, or skirt. Sleeveless shirts or blouses are allowed. However shirts or blouses will not be tied up at the waist or midriff; upper torso, midriff; and undergarments may not be exposed. The size of shirts and blouses shall be appropriate to the student's body size and shall not be unduly oversized or undersized. Shirts and blouses shall not extend past the tip of the fingertips when both arms are extended by the side of the student. Spaghetti straps and tank tops with appropriate neck lines, may be worn with an outer shirt covering, but may not be worn alone; halter-tops, midriff tops, tube tops, or clothing that exposes the upper torso are not allowed.
- Pants/Jeans shall be worn so the waistband is worn at the waist and not below the waist. The size of the pants/jeans shall be appropriate to the student's body size and shall not be unduly "oversized and/or undersized." The width of the legs of pants shall not be unduly "oversized" and shall be appropriate in consideration of the particular student's body size. The length of pants/jeans will not be of length that they drag on the ground/floor.
- Capri pants/jeans shall be worn so the waistband is worn at the waist and not below the waist. The size of the Capri pants/jeans be appropriate to the student's body size and shall not be unduly "oversized and/or undersized."
- The hem of girl's skirts or dresses shall not be shorter than the tip of the fingertips when both arms are extended by the side.
- All students shall wear shoes/footwear.

Unacceptable Attire:

- Wearing and displaying any items that identify gang activity or gang association.
- Clothing encouraging the use of drugs, alcohol, or violence.
- Clothing associated with discrimination of the basis of age, color, handicap, national origin, marital status, race, religion, or sex.

- Clothing (or lack thereof) exposing any portion of the torso or upper thighs such as see-through garments, mini-skirts, or mini-dresses, halters, or backless dresses. Tube tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps or shirts and blouses that have necklines so low that they are provocative, are not allowed. The mid section of the body shall have no skin exposed at any time.
- Clothing deemed by school officials to be so revealing as to disrupt, or potentially disrupt, good order and the education program.
- Clothing items which compromise modesty.
- Clothing or outer garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts, under-shirts, bras, bloomers, tights, or hosiery (except where tights or hosiery are worn appropriately).
- Spandex-style “bicycle” shorts, cut-off jeans, frayed jeans or pants, cut-off sweat pants, short-shorts, running shorts, and see-through boxer-type shorts are not permitted.
- Overalls with one or both straps unfastened.
- Buckles with any gang, drug, alcohol, tobacco signs or symbols, cut out letters or numbers.
- Chains such as security and dog chains or any other chains attached to the clothing.
- Jewelry items that attract attention and are disruptive to the learning process including spiked jewelry.
- Sunglasses and gloves.
- Caps, stocking caps, hoods, scarves, hair nets, or bandanas.

Vocational-Technical Centers:

For safety and employment training purposes, students enrolled at the vocational-technical centers will wear the uniforms of the program. If there is no uniform, this policy shall apply.

Alternative Education/Intervention Center Programs:

Students assigned to an Alternative Education/Intervention Center Program shall be required to dress in accordance with the Dress Code Policy.

ADOPTED: June 30, 2008
REVISED: August 8, 2011
REVIEWED: August 24, 2015