

# MEIGS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Descriptor Term:	Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:
<b>DRESS CODE</b>	<b>6.310</b>	<b>4/8/04</b>
Rescinds:	Issued Date:	
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The Board recognizes the effect which student dress and grooming have upon student behavior and commitment to learning. It further recognizes the role of parents in assisting their children in making appropriate choices regarding clothing, accessories, and personal appearance. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and to prepare students for working environments, the Board shall require that all students, grades K-12, exercise good taste with regard to their personal appearance. Attire considered disruptive or risky to health or safety is not appropriate.

**The following rules concerning dress and grooming are mandatory to students in grades 6-12.**

## **TOP WEAR**

Shirts and blouses must be collared with one-half or full sleeves. Shirts and blouses must button in front. Shirts and blouses must be solid in color and tucked into pants or skirts. School logos are acceptable. No denim.

A long sleeve crewneck, sweater vest or sweatshirt may be worn inside building ***over the approved shirt with the collar visible***. The sweater is not to be draped or tied over the shoulder or around the waist. Pant pocket(s) openings must be visible. ***The sweater, vest and/or sweatshirt must be solid in color.***

## **Bottom Wear**

Bottom wear must be dress or casual style cotton twill pants in solid colors only.

No denim allowed. Pants must meet the following guidelines: Pants must be standard four pocket with only watch pocket as a fifth pocket, colors must be solid or a uniform blend, pants must have belt loops and made in a design that is suitable for the waistline of the pants to be worn above the hip bone.

Pants cannot have large pockets, any designs, extra zippers or loops. If a student has any question concerning pants, that student must have any pants that are in question approved by administrators of the school prior to wearing to school.

All bottom wear must be size appropriate and be worn securely around the waist. Size appropriate means that the waistband must be above the hipbone. Pants with the crotch hanging down are not permitted. Excessive material in the legs is not permitted. Nothing may hang from any pocket.

**Examples of unacceptable bottom wear are (but are not limited to): capri, cargo pants, overalls, carpenter jeans, large bell-bottoms, shorts, skorts, knit, polyester, nylon, parachute cloth, spandex, leather, and suede. Tight fitting stretch pants will not be allowed. Sweat suits or warm up suits will not be allowed.**

## **Skirts/dresses**

Skirts and dresses must be knee length or longer and slits no more than three (3) inches above the knee. Dresses must have sleeves and a collar or be worn over a top with appropriate sleeves and collar. Skirts and dresses are required to be solid in color. No Denim.

**Coats** Coats are not allowed to be worn inside the building. Exceptions may be made by the school principal on cold days.

**Belts** Belts are required for all bottom wear made with belt loops. Belts may be leather or fabric and have a plain buckle. Belts must be clearly visible all the way around the waist. Belt buckles must not depict or suggest messages that are insulting to race, religion, gender, or ethnicity.

## **All Apparel**

All clothing must be hemmed and must not have excessive or revealing holes, rips, tears, cuts, or frayed edges.

Wellness, gym, band, and shop-related (vocational classes) will wear course appropriate dress while in that class.

## **Headwear**

No hats, bandannas, hoods, sweatbands, curlers, rollers or sunglasses will be worn in the building except for medical reasons.

## **Jewelry/ Accessories**

Students are not to wear jewelry, ornaments or accessories, which distract from the educational process. Body-piercing jewelry is not allowed except in the ears. Heavy metal chain (such as those made of steel, chrome, alloy, etc.) and look alikes that are not formal jewelry are not allowed around the neck, waist, or hanging from the waist into the pocket. Students may not wear metal-spiked apparel or similar accessories.

**Improper jewelry will be taken up and returned by the school principal at the end of the semester.**

## **Shoes**

Leather, suede or athletic type shoes are to be worn. Shoes must have a closed toe.

## **Tattoos, makeup, Gloves**

Tattoos should be covered if possible. Students are not to wear extreme facial makeup that is disruptive to the educational environment. Gloves shall not be worn inside the building.

**Hair** All students are required to wear their hair in such a manner that is not considered unkempt, unclean, or impairing vision. Students are not to have: hair sprayed or dyed in unnatural colors, (such as blue, pink, green, yellow) spike hair, or mohawks.

## **Special Dress**

School may develop special dress days/ special dress occasions for students at the discretion of the school administration (examples: cheerleaders, FFA, FCCLA, Field Trips, Spirit Week). Other special circumstances for students and employees as determined by school administrator (ex. Pregnancy).

## **Special Situations**

If a student cannot comply with the standardized dress code based on religious beliefs, his/her parent or guardian may write a letter explaining the situation to the Director of Schools with a copy to the school principal. The principal may waive any of the dress code if it is in his opinion it creates a hardship - ex. weight, medical. Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis.

## **BACKPACKS**

(K-12 requirement)

Backpacks must be clear or see-through mesh. This does not apply to lunch boxes, purses and/or carry cases distributed by the school.

## **BOOKBAGS**

(K-12 requirement)

Book bags must be clear, or of mesh material, and must be free of any writing other than the students' true name; all logos must meet the logo criteria.

**THE FIRST OFFENSE OF THIS POLICY SHALL SIMPLY BE TO ASK THE STUDENT TO CORRECT THE SITUATION.**

**THE SECOND OFFENSE THE STUDENT WILL BE PLACED IN IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION FOR 1 DAY AND REQUIRED TO COPY THE DRESS CODE.**

**THE THIRD OFFENSE OF WEARING ANY ITEM VIOLATING DRESS CODE STUDENT WILL BE SENT HOME.**

**CONTINUANCE VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN LONGER SUSPENSIONS AND/OR A REFERRAL TO THE DISCIPLINE BOARD.**

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Legal Reference:

1. TCA 49-6-4215