

Specific Behavior Policies

4.1 Dress Code

Appropriate student dress and grooming is that which is deemed in good taste, reflecting the standards of the community of which the schools are an integral and visible part. The dress and grooming of students conveys an image of the schools and students, influencing how others respond to and judge the Brazosport Independent School District and its students, as well as contributing to the school climate to which students themselves respond.

Since it is impractical to list every possibility of dress and grooming, final decisions concerning what is acceptable are left to a building administrator. Guidelines and administrative decisions regarding appropriate dress will reflect concern for health and safety of students and the influence of specific dress or grooming on the overall educational climate of the school. The guidelines are reviewed periodically to ensure they continue to reflect community expectations while permitting individual choices and recognizing acceptable current fashions.

The principal or assistant principal under the supervision of the Superintendent shall determine appropriateness of dress. Clarification regarding apparel should be obtained from the principal or assistant principal prior to wearing it to school.

Regulations in reference to grooming and dress for extracurricular activities such as athletics, fine arts, etc. shall be governed by the immediate person in charge of these activities, under the direction of the principal and the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services. Student's dress and grooming that create a hazard to the student's safety and/or safety of others will not be allowed. The student's dress and grooming will not be allowed if it prevents, interferes with, or adversely affects the purpose, direction or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals. (FO) (Local)

These regulations are applicable to the conduct of students while in attendance at school, while on school property, or at school-sponsored activities. These regulations also apply to student behavior at other times that impairs, interferes with, or obstructs the missions, processes, or functions of the district. Additionally, more restrictive dress code policies are in place for students assigned to the district alternative education program.

All students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate for the age of the child and for the activities in which he/she participates.

District-wide Dress Code Policies:

1. Hats and head-coverings of any kind are not to be worn within school buildings except in the interest of religious practices, safety, cleanliness, for medical reasons, or with the permission of the principal. “Hats” should be interpreted broadly to include caps, visors, bandanas, beanies, hoods, scarves or kerchiefs and similar hat-like apparel.
2. Hair shall be clean, neat, and well-groomed. Hairstyles shall not, in the opinion of the administration, cause a health or safety hazard or cause disruption of the educational process.
3. Facial hair must be neat, clean, well-groomed, and not cause a disruption of the educational process.
4. Uncovered halters, see-through garments without undershirts, strapless tops, bare midriff, or bare tops may not be worn.
5. Cleavage should be completely covered.
6. Shorts/skirts/dresses may be no higher than fingertip length while standing upright; slits in skirts and shorts must be no higher than fingertip length when standing upright.
7. Holes in pants must be no higher than fingertip length when standing upright.
8. Clothing shall be of appropriate size, length, and fitting to cover undergarments when the student is standing, sitting, stooping, or bending. Oversized clothing, including oversized jackets, are not permitted.
9. Trench coats, or other long coats that resemble the style of a trench coat, are not acceptable as a form of outerwear and are not be permitted at school.
10. Blankets are not permitted.
11. Form-fitting, stretch clothing such as biking shorts, bodysuits, leotards, tights, legging, etc., shall not be worn except when worn appropriately as an undergarment beneath a garment that extends below the fingertips. These are permitted to be worn only as appropriate for physical education classes and extracurricular school sponsored/approved activities.
12. Any item of clothing, accessory, or outerwear deemed unsuitable for school by the administration will be prohibited, including, but not limited to, those that depict or promote the occult, gang memberships, prison activities, death, suicide, violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, cultural divisiveness, or racial intolerance.
13. Appropriate footwear is required. House shoes, slippers, and other similar soft-soled footwear are not acceptable for school. Appropriate shoes are required for PE and/or any other student activity as determined by the campus administrator. Shoes with wheels are not permitted.

14. Earrings are permitted, but excessive body piercings or piercings that cause a safety concern are not allowed.
15. Tattoos shall be covered if they are offensive, signify gang association, or cause a disruption of the educational process.
16. Oversized backpacks and oversized totes or bags are not permitted, except as necessary for transporting required school gear such as athletic equipment.
17. The district prohibits any other clothing or grooming that, in the principal's or designee's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption or interference with normal school operations.

All students shall be in compliance with the provisions of the dress code and grooming codes in order to enroll in school at the beginning of the school term. New students to the district shall be required to comply with the provisions of the dress and grooming codes upon enrolling and prior to attending class. During the school year, if a student's dress and grooming is in violation of the provisions of the dress code, the student may be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the campus administration. Persistent violation of the dress code may result in additional disciplinary action. Students who violate a provision of the dress code relating to extracurricular activities may be removed or excluded from the extracurricular activity for such period as the principal may determine. All students shall be accorded certain safeguards before any disciplinary action may be taken. An exception to the dress code above regarding No. 1 (Hats, caps, visors, or bandanas) will be made for students who, as a matter of their sincerely held religious belief, wear religious head wear or clothing, including but not limited to the Sikh dastar (turban), the Muslim hijab (head scarf), or the Jewish yarmulke (skull cap).