

DRESS CODE

Dress Code Philosophy

The staff and administration at Franklin School believe that dress has the power to reflect the person. We contend that we, as people, often act as we dress. We want students to dress for success to every possible extent. It is realized that styles of dress change according to cultural expectations. While there may be nothing inherently wrong with a particular style of dress, teaching a child to conform to restrictions is a good preparation for the work environment in future years. The code is more lenient for children in grades K-3. Discretion will be up to administration.

Dress style principles were adopted so as to contribute in a positive way to instruction and learning. Your clothing should:

- Promote personal safety and personal hygiene
- Encourage positive behavior and respect for self and others
- Promote positive peer images
- Respect family and community standards and yet provide an outlet for individual expression

Clothing, which incorporates logos, graphic designs, picture or text, must be appropriate for school. Contents which advertise or display subject matter relating to alcohol, drugs, tobacco use, inappropriate language and/or art work, racial slogans, sexually explicit slogans or pictures are prohibited. Clothing which is deemed by school administration to be distracting to the educational process will be prohibited. This applies to backpacks and notebooks as well. **If you are unsure whether or not a logo would be offensive or distracting to other people, encourage your child to reserve the item for another situation. It may be advisable to purchase clothing without logos, graphics, or sayings for school use.** ALL STUDENTS JACKETS AND COATS MUST HAVE THEIR NAMES INSIDE IN PERMANENT MARKER.

Clothing cannot be modified by drawing, writing, cutting, or painting. If it is, the student will be given duct tape on the first offense and may be sent home on the second offense.

Shoes must be worn at all times. Slippers and flip flops are not allowed at school or on school functions. Remember, sometimes footwear can pose a safety issue.

Hats and visors are not permitted to be worn on campus inside the school building. Hats and visors worn to and from home must be removed during school hours except for outside activities. Please remember that the purpose of a hat is to provide shade and protection from the sun. For this reason, baseball caps should not be worn with the bill facing backwards. Bandannas, doo-rags, and hairnets are not permitted. Stocking caps and beanies are only allowed after fall break until spring break and are also not allowed to be worn in the classroom.

All shirts, blouses and dresses must have sleeves or straps that are at least 2 inches wide and cover undergarments. This means that halter-tops, tube tops, undershirts and spaghetti straps are not allowed. Boys shirts must not hang more than 1-2 inches below the armpits or be otherwise revealing. See through or sheer blouses are not permitted. Undergarments must not be seen at any time. Low-cut, backless, bare midriff and tight-fitting tops are not permitted. All tops must be of such length that when arms are raised above the head, the stomach and/or navel are not revealed. Tights can only be worn with a dress or pants that follow the dress code. Layering of clothing to insure modesty is encouraged but layers should not be removed. However, at least one of the layers must follow the 2-inch rule.

Jeans and pants must fit the natural waist. Pants and jeans must be free from holes or ragged edges and must be hemmed. Loose or open hems will not be allowed. Pajama pants are not allowed during regular school days. Leggings must not be see through. Again, under-garments must not be seen at any time. Low riding or “sagging pants” are not allowed. Long belts and long chains are not permitted.

Shorts must fit at the natural waist. Shorts may not have holes, ragged edges, or loose hems. Spandex or tight-fitting shorts are not permitted. Shorts must not be so short or so baggy as to reveal body parts or undergarments. Shorts must go to mid-thigh and not ride up when sitting to reveal undergarments or any private body parts. Shorts may be worn under skirts to promote modesty. Skirts and dresses must be no more than 3 inches above the knee.

Due to safety issues involving potential concealment of weapons and/or drugs, students are expected to wear conventional fitting shorts and pants. Baggy clothing is prohibited in order to insure the safety of others. Those students dressed marginally will be sent home to change or will be required to tuck in their shirts, etc.

Hairstyles and makeup should be neat and natural. Extreme fads, such as high Mohawks, extreme spikes, etc., that call attention to the person and distract from the learning environment, are not permitted. Hair accessories and clothing items must not be distracting to the learning environment.

Alumni, staff children, siblings of students, etc. who are on campus longer than 15 minutes, must be dress code appropriate or they must wait in the office.

Body piercing and face piercing are not permitted. Piercing calls attention to itself and distracts from the learning environment. Piercing also carries with it risks of infection. Earrings are allowed but excessively dangling earrings are not recommended due to safety, especially during P.E. activities. Students should refrain from wearing wallet chains or dog collars to school for safety reasons. Sometimes students have been injured. Some dress code prohibitions have been designed to eliminate connotations of gang membership. If a child's style of dress becomes offensive to others, parents should actively encourage changes.

Tattoos for students and employees are not permitted. Existing tattoos must be covered by clothing or by a dressing such as a Band-Aid or makeup.

Specific exceptions to the handbook may be allowed during spirit week. These exceptions will be stated before spirit week.

DRESS CODE EXCEPTION FOR SPORTS

Spandex/compression shorts of mid-thigh length, athletic leggings, and yoga pants can be worn during extracurricular sports time/practice ONLY. These items cannot be worn during the regular school day.

Dress Code Violations

Violation of the dress code will result in staff intervention and wearing of school provided items such as sweat pants or T-shirts. Consequences will range from parent contact to out of school suspension. This dress code applies to the campus of Franklin School as well as functions and activities sponsored by Franklin School. It also applies when our students are at locations away from school in a capacity of representing Franklin School at an event or function. Students who do not follow the dress code may be given sweat pants and T-shirts to wear, may be given detention, or may be sent home to change clothes. Final dress code decisions will be at the discretion of the administration.