

DRESS FOR LEARNING - STUDENT DRESS CODE - POLICY 5431

The Kenosha Unified School District Board is committed to providing students with an educational environment that is safe and conducive to learning free from distractions. The District retains the right to monitor and take action when such distractions, in the sole judgment of the District, present a health or safety hazard, or disrupt classroom settings or decorum.

Commencing with the 2007-2008 school year, the Kenosha Unified Schools shall institute a student dress code for all students K-12. All exceptions to this policy and rule, based on religious beliefs or medical conditions, requested by the parent or guardian must be documented and approved by the Superintendent/designee.

All students are expected to exemplify appropriate hygiene and dress standards in a manner that projects an appropriate image for the student, school, and District. The District shall not require specific brands of clothing. No student shall be permitted to wear any clothing which is normally identified with a gang or gang-related activity (including gang-related colors if for purposes of gang identification), or clothing that contains pictures and/or writing referring to alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, sexual references, profanity, illegal drugs, bigoted epithets, harassment/hate messages, or messages of hostility toward race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation. If there is a disagreement between students and/or parents and the staff regarding the appropriateness of clothing, the principal will make the final determination.

Students at the middle and high school levels will be required to wear student identification (I.D.'s) during the school day and have them easily accessible during all school activities (academic, extra-curricular, co-curricular).

Bottoms (Slacks, pants, capris, shorts, skirts, jumpers, skorts, dresses)

- Must be neat, clean and in appropriate repair, no holes or tears;
- Must be touching or extending above the belt line and appropriately fastened at the waistline and belts are required if necessary;
- Underwear must be covered at all times, when standing or seated;
- Dresses, skirts and jumpers must be at least mid-thigh length;
- Shorts and skorts must be at least fingertip length when standing; and
- Must fit appropriately and not be baggy, tight, or drag on the floor.

Tops (Shirts, blouses, sweaters)

- Rounded, buttoned, collared or higher neckline on tops must cover chest at all times;
- Must be long enough to be tucked in, cover the mid-section and past belt line when seated;
- Must have sleeves;
- Must be neat, clean and in appropriate repair, no holes or tears; and
- Must fit appropriately and not be tight or baggy.

Footwear

- Athletic shoes, laced shoes and/or shoe boots, loafers, dress shoes, or sandals

Inappropriate attire:

- See through fabric without opaque fabric lining;
- Bedtime attire, such as pajamas, undershirts or undergarments as outerwear;
- Attire that may be considered weapons, including but not limited to chain belts or wallet chains;
- Jewelry, piercing, tattoos or similar artifacts that are obscene or may cause disruptions to the educational environment;
- Hoods, hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands, skullcaps, plastic hair bags, hair nets, hair curlers or do-rags, except headwear worn for legitimate religious purposes;
- Athletic shorts;
- House slippers, or any other type of footwear that could constitute a safety hazard;
- Flip flops at the elementary and middle school level;
- Steel-toed boots or shoes;
- Any type of footwear with wheels; and
- Hobnails, spurs or cleats on belts, boots, or shoes are not permitted.

It shall be left to the discretion of the principal/designee whether or not a student is in compliance with the student dress code policy. Students who violate the rules for school attire will have the options to put on clothing that is appropriate, to contact parent or guardian to bring in appropriate clothing or to change into appropriate clothing and return to school. The principal/designee may call a conference with the parent/guardian, students and counselor to assist with compliance. Repeated violations of school attire rules will constitute disciplinary action.