

## STUDENT DRESS CODE REGULATIONS

In accordance with RS 17:416.7, the Lafayette Parish School Board has adopted the following dress code. All students enrolled in Lafayette Parish schools must wear uniforms as described below and follow guidelines that regulate these uniforms, hair, jewelry, book bags and general appearance. The guidelines set forth are designed to:

- Promote school safety.
- Minimize distractions and disruptions which are based on personal appearance, conduct, grooming, hygiene, and attire and which might interfere with the education of other students.
- Prevent clothing, jewelry and general appearance that constitute a health or safety hazard to the student or is suggestive or indecent.
- Foster an attitude of respect for authority, improve morale and prepare students to enter the work force that often has rules regarding dress, conduct and appearance.

### VERIFY UNIFORMS THROUGH A SCHOOL OFFICIAL

Parents should not rely on stores for information regarding Lafayette Parish uniforms. Parents should call their school or the Lafayette Parish School System Central Office for information before buying uniforms.

### I. GUIDELINES FOR UNIFORMS, APPEARANCE AND ACCESSORIES

#### A. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

1. See-through clothes, inappropriate tight-fitting apparel, attire that exposes the midsection, or clothing or apparel that is considered unsafe, dangerous, or a health hazard is prohibited — even if it otherwise follows the student uniform dress code. Clothing must meet all uniform guidelines, regardless of the label information.
2. Shirts:
  - a. Style: Polo/Golf-style shirts are required. Blouses are not acceptable. The shirt may be short or long-sleeved style and must have a collar. The shirt may not have decorative trim of a different color, emblem, logo or decoration.
  - b. Solid color (white, red or navy) turtleneck shirts or T-shirts will be allowed under the uniform shirt in grades K-8.
  - c. Color: The following colors of polo/golf style shirts have been approved for elementary schools: white, red, navy
  - d. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shirts that are too short to tuck in or too tight are prohibited.
3. Bottoms:
  - a. Style: Slacks or walking shorts are acceptable bottoms. In addition, girls may wear skirts (plain, no ruffles), skorts, or jumpers (dresses only, no overall/bib styles). Slacks and shorts must be pleated or

- flat front. Wind suits or corduroy fabrics are not allowed. Only straight-leg or boot-cut slacks are allowed. Jean-cut, slit pants, bell-bottoms, leggings, capri, gauchos, stretch or sweat pants are not allowed. Cell phone/Cargo pockets are not allowed.
- b. Color: All bottoms must be navy or khaki in color. No white, black, dark brown or gray allowed.
  - c. Fit: Slacks and shorts must have a waistband with belt loops and must fit at the waist. Pants must be worn at the waist. Neither under garments nor any part of the midsection should be visible. Pants cannot slip when walking. Sagging is not allowed and is strictly enforced. Elastic waistbands are allowed at the principal's discretion for students in Pre-K through first grade.
  - d. Length: Length for skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be no shorter than 6' above the knee. Shorts (for males and females) must be no longer than the midknee and no shorter than 6" above the knee (front and back). Length for pants must be at the ankle; slits on pants not allowed.
  - e. Logos: Logos on pants must be no larger than 1-1/2" square or the logo should be removed. Logos located only on the back hip directly below the belt line are allowed.
  - f. Miscellaneous: Pants must have no holes, frays, slits, rivets, or hemlines below the shoe level and must not have a baggy or an exaggerated crotch. Belts of a black, brown, navy or khaki color must be worn with slacks and shorts.
4. Belts:
- a. Belts of a black, brown, navy or khaki color must be worn with slacks and shorts
  - b. Belts will be optional for Pre-K, kindergarten and first grade students.
  - c. Belt buckles should be of reasonable size and are subject to principal's discretion.
5. Socks:
- a. Socks are required at all times in elementary schools. Socks must be white, navy, red or beige in color and cover the ankle. Girls may wear tights.
6. Shoes:
- a. Closed toe and closed back shoes must be worn at all times in grades K-12. No specific style of shoe is required; however, no bedroom slippers or combat boots can be worn. In addition, cowboy boots are not allowed in elementary school, grades K-5. Shoes must be secured (laces tied, straps fastened) at all times.
7. Outer wear:
- a. All outerwear must be of reasonable fit.

- b. Sweatshirts: Sweatshirts must be long-sleeved.
  - c. Sweaters: No turtleneck sweaters are allowed as outerwear.
  - d. Jacket/Coat: No specific style of sweatshirt, sweater, jacket or coat is required. However, no long (below the knee) dusters or trench coats are allowed on any campus.
  - e. Hoods/head coverings: Hoods on sweatshirts, jackets, and pullovers may not be worn inside the building/classroom.
  - f. Uniform polo shirts must be worn under outerwear. Staff may request a student to verify this.
8. Headwear: Hats, caps, sweat bands, earmuffs and bandannas are not allowed on any campus. Knit caps and hoods may be worn outside only in extremely cold weather.
9. Hair & Facial Hair:
- a. Male Students: Hair on male students should not descend below the bottom of the ear lobe or touch the top of the collar in the backs.
  - b. Styles: Traditional cornrows and/or braids are permitted if hair is neatly done and follows all other hair guidelines.
  - c. Bangs: Bangs should not descend below the eyebrow.
  - d. Miscellaneous: Hair rollers, \*unnatural hair colors, letters or designs shaved or woven into the head/eyebrows, or other extremes in hair styles are not permitted.  
\*Unnatural is defined as not naturally occurring on people.
10. Jewelry:
- a. Excessive (more than one item per wrist, neck, ear, hand) and/or inappropriate jewelry is not permitted.
  - b. Nose rings/studs, body piercing with jewelry, tongue studs, eyebrow rings, etc. are not permitted.
  - c. Male students may not wear earrings.
11. Body Decorations: Makeup, painted faces, tattoos, decals and stick-on tattoos are not permitted. No artificial nails.
12. Sunglasses: Sunglasses are not permitted to be worn on all LPSS campuses.
13. Book Bags: There are no restrictions on color of book bags for elementary students. K-5 schools may prohibit book sacks with wheels due to safety reasons.
14. Emblems and Insignia:
- a. Gang-Related Items: Any combination of clothing and jewelry that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang-related are not permitted.
  - b. Discriminatory, Obscene or Drug/Alcohol Related: Emblems, insignia, jewelry, signs, speech or literature that is discriminatory,

inflammatory or derogatory toward any sex, race, nationality, creed, political or philosophical group, is obscene or contains profanity, or makes reference to drugs, alcohol and/or tobacco are not permitted.

**B. MIDDLE SCHOOLS**

1. See-through clothes, inappropriate tight-fitting apparel, attire that exposes the midsection, or clothing or apparel that is considered unsafe, dangerous, or a health hazard is prohibited — even if it otherwise follows the student uniform dress code. Clothing must meet all uniform guidelines, regardless of the label information.
2. Shirts
  - a. Style: Polo/Golf-style shirts are required. The shirt may be short or long-sleeved style and must have a collar. The shirt may not have decorative trim of a different color, emblem, logo or decoration. A school logo is allowed.
  - b. Solid color (white, red or navy) turtleneck shirts or T-shirts will be allowed under the uniform shirt in grades K-8.
  - c. Color: The following colors of polo/golf style shirts have been approved for middle schools: white, red, navy.
  - d. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shirts that are too short to tuck in or too tight are prohibited.
3. Bottoms:
  - a. Style: Slacks or walking shorts are acceptable bottoms. In addition, girls may wear skirts (plain, no ruffles), skorts, or jumpers (dresses only, no overall/bib styles). Slacks and shorts must be pleated or flat front. Wind suits or corduroy fabrics are not allowed. Only straight-leg or boot-cut slacks are allowed. Jean-cut, slit pants, bell-bottoms, leggings, capri, gauchos, stretch or sweat pants are not allowed. Cell Phone/Cargo pockets are not allowed.
  - b. Color: All bottoms must be navy or khaki in color. No white, dark brown or black allowed.
  - c. Fit: Slacks and shorts must have a waistband with belt loops and must fit at the waist. Bottoms must be worn at the waist. Neither under garments nor any part of the midsection should be visible. Pants cannot slip when walking. Sagging is not allowed and is strictly enforced.
  - d. Length: Length for skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be no shorter than 6' above the knee. Shorts (for males and females) must be no longer than the midknee and no shorter than 6" above the knee (front and back). Length for pants must be at the ankle; slits on pants not allowed.

- e. Logos: Logos on pants must be no larger than 1-1/2" square or the logo should be removed. Logos located only on the back hip directly below the belt line are allowed.
  - f. Miscellaneous: Pants must have no holes, frays, slits, rivets, or hemlines below the shoe level and must not have a baggy or an exaggerated crotch. Bottoms must be worn over boots.
4. Belts:
- a. Belts of a black, brown, navy or khaki color must be worn with slacks and shorts.
  - b. Belt buckles should be of reasonable size and are subject to principal's discretion.
5. Socks: Socks are required at all times in middle schools. Socks must be white, navy, black, red or beige in color. Girls may wear stockings.
6. Shoes: Closed toe and closed back shoes must be worn at all times in grades K-12. No specific style of shoe is required; however, no bedroom slippers or combat boots can be worn. In grades K-8, shoes designed to have shoelaces must have laces, which also must be tied. Also, shoes that have straps must have straps secured.
7. Outer wear:
- a. All outerwear must be of reasonable fit. The following are the only allowed outerwear items.
  - b. Sweatshirts: Sweatshirts must be long-sleeved.
  - c. Sweaters: No turtleneck sweaters are allowed as outerwear.
  - d. Jacket/Coat: No specific style of sweatshirt, sweater, jacket or coat is required. However, no long (below the knee) dusters or trench coats are allowed on any campus.
  - e. Hoods/Head Coverings: Hoods on sweatshirts, jackets, and pullovers may not be worn inside the building/classroom.
  - f. Uniform polo shirts must be worn under outerwear. Staff may request a student to verify this.
  - g. Should a student choose to wear a jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt displaying a Lafayette Parish School System school logo, it must be the logo of the school the student presently attends.
8. Headwear: Hats, caps, sweat bands, earmuffs and bandannas are not allowed on any campus. Knit caps and hoods may be worn outside only in extremely cold weather.
9. Hair & Facial Hair:
- a. Male Students: Hair on male students should not descend below the bottom of the ear lobe or touch the top of the collar in the back.
  - b. Styles: Traditional cornrows and/or braids are permitted if hair is neatly done and follows all other hair guidelines.
  - c. Bangs: Bangs should not descend below the eyebrow.

- d. Miscellaneous: Hair rollers, \*unnatural hair colors, letters or designs shaved or woven into the head/eyebrows, or other extremes in hair styles are not permitted.  
\*Unnatural is defined as not naturally occurring on people.
- 10. Jewelry:
  - a. Excessive (more than two earrings per ear, two bracelets per arm, two necklaces, or two rings per hand) and/or inappropriate jewelry is not permitted.
  - b. Nose rings/studs, body piercing with jewelry, tongue studs, eyebrow rings, etc. are not permitted.
  - c. Male students may not wear earrings.
- 11. Body Decorations: Excessive and inappropriate makeup, painted faces, inappropriate tattoos, decals and stick-on tattoos are not permitted.
- 12. Sunglasses: Sunglasses are not permitted to be worn on all LPSS campuses.
- 13. Book Bags: Only mesh or clear book bags will be allowed at middle school campuses. Book bags or book sacks with wheels will not be allowed on middle school campuses unless there is a documented medical condition (provided to school administrator) that requires one. Approved extracurricular bags must be stowed in assigned area as designated by each school.
- 14. Emblems and Insignia
  - a. Gang-Related Items: Any combination of clothing and jewelry that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang-related are not permitted.
  - b. Discriminatory, Obscene or Drug/Alcohol Related: Emblems, insignia, jewelry, signs, speech or literature that is discriminatory, inflammatory or derogatory toward any sex, race, nationality, creed, political or philosophical group, is obscene or contains profanity, or makes reference to drugs, alcohol and/or tobacco are not permitted.

**C. HIGH SCHOOLS**

- 1. See-through clothes, inappropriate tight-fitting apparel, attire that exposes the midsection, or clothing or apparel that is considered unsafe, dangerous, or a health hazard is prohibited — even if it otherwise follows the student uniform dress code. Clothing must meet all uniform guidelines, regardless of the label information.
- 2. Shirts:
  - a. Style: Polo/Golf-style shirts are required. The shirt may be short or long-sleeved style and must have a collar. The shirt may not have decorative trim of a different color, emblem, logo or decoration.

- b. Color: The following colors of polo/golf style shirts have been approved for high schools:
    - 1. Acadiana High School - white, hunter green, black
    - 2. Carencro High School - white, navy, red
    - 3. Lafayette High School - white, kelly green, black
    - 4. Ovey Comeaux High School - white, red, navy
    - 5. Northside High School - white, red, black
    - 6. Charter High School – burgundy, white
  - c. School approved solid color (see school colors) turtleneck shirts or T-shirts will be allowed under the uniform shirt in grades 9-12.
  - d. Solid white-collared dress shirts, long- or short-sleeved, which button down the front, are also acceptable.
  - e. Students may have the official school logo monogrammed on any uniform shirt. The monogram must be approved by the school administration and must be located only on the upper left side of the shirt.
  - f. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shirts that are too short to tuck in or too tight are prohibited.
3. Bottoms:
- a. Style: Slacks or walking shorts are acceptable bottoms. In addition, girls may wear skirts (plain, no ruffles or layers), skorts, or jumpers (dresses only, no overall/bib styles). Slacks, skirts and shorts must be pleated or flat front. Wind suits or corduroy fabrics are not allowed. Only straight-leg or boot-cut slacks are allowed. Jean-cut, slit pants, bell-bottoms, leggings, capri, gauchos, stretch or sweat pants are not allowed. Cell Phone/Cargo pockets are not allowed.
  - b. Color: All bottoms must be navy, khaki, or black in color. No white, dark brown or gray allowed.
  - c. Fit: Slacks and shorts must have a waistband with belt loops and must fit at the waist. All bottoms must be worn at the waist. Neither under garments nor any part of the midsection should be visible. Pants cannot slip when walking. Sagging is not allowed and is strictly enforced.
  - d. Length: Length for skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be no shorter than 6' above the knee. Shorts (for males and females) must be no longer than the midknee and no shorter than 6" above the knee (front and back). Length for pants must be at the ankle; slits on pants not allowed.
  - e. Logos: Logos on pants must be no larger than 1-1/2" square or the logo should be removed. Logos located only on the back hip directly below the belt line are allowed.

- f. Miscellaneous: Pants must have no holes, frays, slits, rivets, or hemlines below the shoe level and must not have a baggy or an exaggerated crotch.
4. Belts: Belts must be worn with slacks and shorts.
5. Shoes: Closed toe and closed back shoes must be worn at all times in grades K-12. No specific style of shoe is required; however, no bedroom slippers or combat boots can be worn. Special medical circumstances may be addressed by the school principal.
6. Outer wear: The following are the only allowed outerwear items:
  - a. Sweatshirts: Sweatshirts must be long-sleeved.
  - b. Sweaters: No turtleneck sweaters are allowed as outerwear.
  - c. Jacket/Coat: No specific style of sweatshirt, sweater, jacket or coat is required. However, no long (below the knee) dusters or trench coats are allowed on any campus.
  - d. Hoods/Head Coverings: Hoods on sweatshirts, jackets, and pullovers may not be worn inside the building.
  - e. Uniform polo shirts must be worn under outerwear. Staff may request a student to verify this.
7. Headwear: Hats, caps, sweat bands, earmuffs and bandannas are not allowed on any campus. Knit caps and hoods may be worn outside only in extremely cold weather.
8. Hair & Facial Hair
  - a. Hair rollers, \*unnatural hair colors, letters or designs shaved or woven into the head/eyebrows, or other extremes in hair styles are not permitted.
  - b. Facial hair for males must be neat, clean, and not exaggerated (principal's discretion).

\*Unnatural is defined as not naturally occurring on people.
9. Jewelry
  - a. Excessive and/or inappropriate jewelry is not permitted.
  - b. Nose rings/studs, body piercing with jewelry, tongue studs, eyebrow rings, etc. are not permitted.
  - c. Male students may not wear earrings.
10. Body Decorations: Excessive and inappropriate makeup, painted faces, inappropriate tattoos, decals and stick-on tattoos are not permitted.
11. Sunglasses: Sunglasses are not permitted to be worn all on LPSS campuses.
12. Book Bags: Only mesh or clear book bags will be allowed at high school campuses. Book bags or book sacks with wheels will not be allowed on high school campuses unless there is a documented medical condition (provided to school administrator) that requires one. Approved



extracurricular bags must be stowed in assigned area as designated by each school.

13. Emblems and Insignia
  - a. Gang-Related Items: Any combination of clothing and jewelry that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang-related is not permitted.
  - b. Discriminatory, Obscene or Drug/Alcohol Related: Emblems, insignia, jewelry, signs, speech or literature that is discriminatory, inflammatory or derogatory toward any sex, race, nationality, creed, political or philosophical group, is obscene or contains profanity, or makes reference to drugs, alcohol and/or tobacco is not permitted.

**D. ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS**

1. Uniform guidelines may vary and will be discussed during the period of intake/orientation.

**II. ENFORCEMENT AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE STUDENT DRESS CODE**

**A. Principal's Discretion to Make Uniform Exceptions:**

Principals may declare spirit days and allow students to wear school spirit shirts, or dress-up days (such as when school pictures are scheduled). Principals may also allow students to wear other uniforms such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, band, chorus, etc. Other questions about uniforms should be referred first to the school principal. Special dress days are not to be used as school fundraisers.

**B. Dress Code in Special Classes**

Students must follow the rules of appropriate dress as dictated by the needs of special classes (i.e. physical education, industrial arts, consumer science, etc.)

**C. Exceptions for Religious Reasons:**

Requests for religious exceptions to the dress code must be made to the Office of Child Welfare & Attendance, who will explore the basis for the exception and determine if the exception is warranted. An individual requesting an exception bears the burden of demonstrating the following.

1. The individual has a legitimate religious belief that conflicts with the Lafayette Parish School System student dress code.
2. The dress or grooming of the student is a documented expression of his or her religious belief.
3. The dress or grooming beliefs are rooted in religion and required by his or her religious practice.

4. The individual has a sincerely held belief that enforcement of the student dress code will have a coercive effect that will operate to prevent his or her exercise of those religious beliefs.
5. Any student requesting an exception from the student uniform dress code for religious reasons must produce to the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance documentation establishing the legitimate existence of the religion and evidence of the grooming or dress as rooted in religion and as necessary while in school. The Office of Child Welfare and Attendance may deny a request if, in his or her judgment, the requested exception poses a danger to the student requesting the exception or to any student attending school in the system. All requests for exceptions must be made prior to any actions that would otherwise be a violation of the student uniform dress code.

**D. Final Judgment Resides with the Building Administrator:**

The principal will make the final decision if the clothing, hair, jewelry and general appearance of a student meet the Lafayette Parish School System's school uniform and appearance guidelines explained above.

**E. Violation of Dress Code Policy:**

Any student who violates the student dress code will be subject to school disciplinary action. Appeals and/or clarification regarding the discipline of a student for improper dress code should be directed to the school principal or designee.

Adopted:	6/26/91	Revised:	5/2/01	Revised:	5/3/06
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