

## **DRESS AND GROOMING**

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

**Zero tolerance - for all dress code violations. Students will be sent home and absences will be unexcused.** The district's dress code is established to teach hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, and avoid safety hazards.

The administration and faculty shall have the right to appraise any current fashion or fad and determine whether it is appropriate or inappropriate for school wear. **The school has the right to ask students to change attire if it is of such nature that it provokes unfavorable comment.** A student who tries to attract attention by dressing in an irregular or unconventional manner is inviting criticism that may damage a good reputation.

**Students who miss class time or who are sent home at any time while correcting grooming/dress code problems are considered absent (or tardy) after the first offense and are subject to disciplinary action.**

Dresses, skirts, jumpers, and garments with a slit must be long enough to maintain dignity while sitting and/or standing. **They must not be shorter than the top of the kneecap.** All shorts, skorts, culottes, overall shorts or any other item with an inseam **must not be shorter than the top of the kneecap.** **Garments torn in a manner exposing undergarments are not permissible.** (Dress code for Elementary students may be altered by the elementary principal.)

**Tops or shirts that are inappropriately tight or revealing, or tight stretch tops may not be worn. No open-armed T-shirts or muscle shirts for girls or boys. All shirts must have a sleeve. All clothing must be modest and decent.** Shirts must be hemmed at the edge and may not be frayed. (Dress code for elementary students may be altered by the elementary principal.)

**Pajamas or other sleepwear (or clothing appearing to be sleepwear) are not allowed.**

Shirts will be appropriately sized and buttoned. Halters, tank tops, strapless garments, racer shirts, mesh/see-through tops and clothes that expose the midriff, back, or cleavage will not be allowed. Girls' shirts, blouses, or tops must cover the midriff. **A shirt is considered too short if the midriff is visible at any time.**

All pants, shorts, and skirts are to be appropriately sized and worn at the natural waistline (**no sagging**). Pant legs should not extend past the tip of the shoe. **If in the school employee's opinion a garment is sagging, it will be considered so.** Spandex tights, short shorts, boxer shorts, biker shorts, and "running" tights are not permitted alone but may be worn in combination with other garments of proper length. Wind shorts are not allowed. **If belts are worn they must be of the appropriate length and may not hang down in the middle of the torso.**

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Appropriate undergarments must be worn but must not be visible. This includes swimsuits or any other item worn as an undergarment. Obscene slogans, grotesque pictures, or occult signs and symbols are not permitted on shirts, jackets, jeans, sweatshirts, book covers, or parts of the body when at school or school events.

Clothing or jewelry shall not advertise, represent or advocate alcohol, drugs or tobacco products or shall not convey sexual innuendoes, either during school hours or at school sponsored activities. Racially related symbols, emblems, pictures, words, slogans, or flags are not permitted. **Any tattoo, including temporary and/or handwritten tattoos or symbols, must be covered at all times.** No stickers or body decoration are allowed unless approved by the principal for events such as pep rallies and theatre arts classes and plays. **No wallet chains are allowed.**

Clothing shall be worn in a manner for which it was intended. Clothes, including headwear, may not be worn backwards or inside out. Suspenders or overall straps must be worn over the shoulders. Overalls must fit properly and be buttoned and shirts worn under overalls and suspenders must conform to the dress code. Caps must be worn with the bill facing forward. Gloves may not be worn in the buildings and may be worn outside only on very cold days.

Hair should be kept cleaned and groomed. The styling or grooming should keep the hair out of the eyes. **For boys, the length of hair may not extend past the top of a T-shirt collar in the back, may not extend past the top of the earlobe on the sides, and may not cover the face or eyes at any time.** It also may not be tucked behind the ear to circumvent this rule. Spiked hair (hair appearing to be twisted and/or put in rows) will not be allowed. Afro hairstyles may not exceed the length of three inches on any part of the head. Pinning the hair, use of rubber bands or any use of artificial means to circumvent the rules for hair length or grooming requirements is prohibited. Boys may not braid their hair in any manner. Boys may not wear rubber bands or other adornments in the hair. Headbands, hair rollers, or long handled combs may not be worn in the hair. **Only a natural hair color will be allowed for all students. No Mohawk of any kind allowed. No designs of any kind allowed in hair.**

If hair is colored what is deemed to be an unnatural color it must be re-colored to conform to the dress code and it is the student's responsibility to recolor it in spite of damage it may cause to the

hair. The school accepts no responsibility for this. If there is a doubt whether or not to color one's hair a particular color, the best practice is for the student to refrain from doing so.

Sideburns on a student may not be shaped and may not be below the bottom of the earlobe. Sideburns must be cut straight down and not flared or pointed. Mustaches, beards, or goatees will not be allowed. **Students must be clean-shaven, so it is recommended that they shave before coming to school each day.**

Boys are not permitted to wear earring(s) or any other body piercing ornaments and may not wear painted fingernails. They may not wear a band-aid or other covering to cover an earring or earring hole. Girls may wear earrings, but no other body piercing jewelry or accessories will be allowed. Body piercing includes, but is not limited to, tongue piercing. Students may not wear plugs, straws, etc. to keep a pierced hole from closing. It is recommended that dangling earrings not be worn to school because of safety reasons. No animal collars or heavy neck chains or bracelets may be worn.

Hemphill ISD discourages the wearing of expensive jewelry and other apparel and is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Any accessory that may cause injury will be prohibited.

No hats or caps of any kind will be worn in the building, except on special days (such as Crazy Hat Day) as designated by the principal. Girls may wear ribbons, bows, or barrettes in their hair. Bandannas (including triangle head scarves) or headbands or nylon type headwear will not be allowed. Sunglasses or sunshades are not to be worn in the building, unless there is a written request from a physician, or permission from the principal.

Shoes must be worn. House shoes and Heelies are not allowed. Sandals and Flip flops will not be allowed for P. E.

Any article of clothing, jewelry, body decoration or hair style that attracts undue attention, creates a distraction or disturbs the normal routine of school shall be deemed inappropriate.

The American flag is not to be worn as an article of clothing. The likeness of the American flag is not to be worn in an inappropriate manner.

If need arises, this dress code is subject to change with appropriate notification.

Additional dress and personal appearance requirements may be required by school clubs, athletic teams, organizations, bands, classes, and any other extra-curricular activities. For example, a school organization may require a certain hair length or style, or require certain dress for school-sponsored trips. Students must follow the dress code when representing our school in competitions such as Academic UIL, athletics, band, etc.

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**Exception to daily dress code:** Acceptable formal attire is permissible at school banquets and proms, and acceptable informal attire is permissible at other appropriate events as approved by the campus principal. If a student has a question about dress code for a certain event, he/she should consult with the principal beforehand.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.