

STUDENT DRESS CODE

1. It is not intended that clothing restrictions be placed on individuals which would infringe upon their personal rights; however, it is felt that certain restrictions must be enacted to prevent situations which would be indecent, unsafe, disturbing, or disruptive to the educational setting of the school. The administration reserves the right to define appropriate and inappropriate dress.

2. All students will be properly dressed while attending school and school functions. Dress should be appropriate for the age group involved and should not be a disruptive influence on the educational program.

3. The following is a listing of those clothing items that are considered unacceptable and strictly prohibited from use within the Gloucester County Public Schools. Students in all grades will be prohibited from wearing:

- Dresses, skirts, mini-skirts, shorts, culottes, skorts, and split skirts that do not reach the end of the fingertips when standing with the arms fully extended;
- Tank tops, mesh tops, halters, pajamas, slippers, or bare midriff clothing; no midriff or cleavage can be exposed at any time;
- Stretch pants, tights, or leotards, worn as outer garments;
- Sunglasses in the building;
- Hats, hoods, or other inappropriate head covering in the building;
- Curlers, picks, combs, or rakes in the hair;
- Military or inappropriate insignia on clothing (due to Federal Law);
- Fringed garments in vocational areas;
- Items of clothing that would impair the health and safety of the student during normal school activities;
- Dog collars, chains, safety pins or fishhooks worn as jewelry, accessories, or ornamentation;
- Clothing that can be interpreted to convey inappropriate messages, e.g., hats, T- shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, patches with unacceptable pictures, writing, or advertisement of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, or sexually suggestive messages;
- Clothing symbolic of gangs or disruptive groups associated with threatening behavior, harassment or discrimination;
- Sagging pants; pants must be worn around the waist; and,
- No underwear can be exposed at any time by anyone.

In regard to possible violation(s) of the Student Dress Code that may be questionable, a consensus of three (3) persons should be used, i.e., principal, nurse, and/or counselor/teacher/secretary, to determine if a violation exists. Violations of the Student Dress Code adopted by the School Board will invoke the following consequences:

- The student will be required to change into a suitable garment or cover the offending piece of clothing, whichever is applicable.
- If the procedure outlined above is not possible, the student will be requested to contact his/her parent or guardian in order to obtain suitable clothing. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, then the student will remain in detention until the end of the school day.
- A second (2nd) violation of the Student Dress Code may result in detention or suspension, and/or a parent or guardian/administrator conference.
- A third (3rd) violation of the Student Dress Code may result in a suspension from one (1) to five (5) days, and/or a parent or guardian/administrator conference.

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LEGAL REFERENCE:

Gloucester County School Board