

Northwest Middle School: Student Dress Code Regulations

The primary objective of Greenville County Schools is to provide a world-class instructional program and learning opportunity for every student. The personal appearance of every student is an important component of establishing a safe environment for optimal learning and respect for one another. Students are expected to dress in an appropriate manner while on school district property or when representing the school. Personal appearance shall be such that it does not disrupt student work or school order, become distracting to other students, or violate health and safety guidelines.

STUDENT IDs & LANYARDS:

- All students must wear a school-issued student ID card on a lanyard around the neck as part of the required dress code. **ID cards must not be altered in any way.** Altered ID cards will result in a charge for replacement.
- Students may substitute a lanyard of their preference as long as the content of any graphics adhere to established school and district guidelines.

GENERAL:

- Clothing, facial jewelry and/or hair should not be so extreme or inappropriate to the school setting as to disrupt the education process. Therefore, all clothing deemed distracting, revealing, overly suggestive, or otherwise disruptive is not allowed.
- Undergarments should never be visible.
- Transparent or mesh clothing should not be worn without an appropriate shirt underneath.
- Clothing, jewelry, lanyards, accessories or tattoos that display profanity, suggestive phrases, messages or pictures that depict or suggest alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gangs, or sex are not allowed.

TOPS:

- Hoodies are allowed. However, **all hoods must remain DOWN** while in the hallway, cafeteria, media center and all other common areas inside the building. Hoods must also remain down in classrooms where it is the teacher's expectation or rule. The only time students can wear their hood up is IF a teacher allows them to do so while INSIDE their own classroom.
- All tops must cover the waist and back with no skin showing between the top garment and bottom garment, regardless of a student's arm motion.
- Shirts should be loose-fitting and fully cover the upper body. Halter tops, shirts with spaghetti straps and see-through shirts will not be allowed.
- Tank tops are allowed, as long as the shoulder strap is the width of the Student ID.
- Cut off t-shirts/shirts with missing arms or other parts are not allowed.

BOTTOMS:

- All bottoms should be of adequate length (mid-thigh) when the student is seated or engaged in school activities. Pants should not have holes above mid-thigh which reveal skin or undergarments. Shorts, skirts, dresses and all other bottoms must come to the middle of the student's thigh or lower.
- Pants must be worn at the natural waistline and undergarments should not be visible. If they do not fit properly, a belt or zip-tie must be worn to keep them in place.
- Leggings worn alone are not permitted. Leggings are ONLY to be worn under an approved dress code item, such as a top that comes down to one's mid-thigh or shorts.
- Pajama pants are not allowed.

SHOES:

- Proper shoes must be worn at all times. Flip-flops, house/bedroom shoes and slippers, slides or shower-type shoes are not considered proper shoes and are not allowed. Thong sandals with a back strap are allowed. Crocs are allowed.
- Students may be required to wear sneakers during PE. Please see PE syllabus for more details.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Wearing accessories that could pose a safety threat to oneself or others is not allowed.
- Hats, bandanas, head coverings of any kind, and sunglasses may not be worn inside the building.
- Extraneous articles hanging from clothing, such as chains, capes or flags of any kind are not allowed.
- No blankets or other bed linens are allowed at school.

The administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of clothing and/or appearance and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any articles of clothing or other items which may lead to or may foreseeably result in the disruption of or interference with the school environment. In the event the administration determines a student's dress is inappropriate for school in accordance with this policy, the administration will either require the student to change or will inform the student not to wear the garment to school again. Repeated violations of the dress code will be treated as disruptive behavior in violation of the district's behavior code.