

DOTHAN CITY SCHOOLS
STUDENT DRESS CODE
Grades K – 12

DRESS CODE

It is the policy of the Board of Education that good grooming and personal appearance are essential, if not critical, elements in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it is expected that students dress in such a manner that will ensure the health and safety of the school. Furthermore, the dress and personal appearance will not be disruptive or interfere with the legitimate interest and welfare of students. Students are also expected to choose their clothes in good taste, wearing only those clothes, which are appropriate for the educational environment.

All students are expected to comply with the Dress Code. For compelling reasons, such as medical requirements, the principal or superintendent, may, at their discretion, review an individual situation to determine whether a modification of a provision is required for the health and safety of a particular student or other compelling reason.

The School Administration will judge the appropriateness of any “fad” or questionable article of apparel.

With this in mind, the following rules concerning dress and grooming are mandatory for all students attending Dothan City Schools. Students who fail to follow these rules will be subject to disciplinary action.

1. Any clothing, appearance or personal hygiene and grooming practices that draw an inordinate amount of attention to the individual student are considered inappropriate for school. The dress and/or grooming style of any student must not interfere with the educational process of Dothan City Schools.
2. Students are to wear clothing in the manner it was designed to work, i.e., clothing worn backward or inside-out, is not allowed. Specifically, pants worn too low (low riders), too long, or excessively large or tight are not permitted. Leggings are not considered pants and must be worn under skirts, shorts or tops that meet the four (4) inch requirement. All pants (including shorts and skirts) will be worn at the natural waist level.
3. Students are not to wear clothing that reveals the body in an inappropriate manner. (Examples: clothing which is form fitting, too tight, too short, bare at the midriff when arms are fully extended above the students’ head, bare at the sides, sun dresses, “spaghetti strap” type tops, off-the shoulder tops, razor-back tops, low-cut front or backless tops, sheer or see-thru clothing, etc.) Undergarments should be worn in appropriate manner and should not be visible. Sleeveless shirts or tops for male and female students are prohibited. Pajama style pants are not allowed.
4. Leggings are not considered pants and must have appropriate clothing (shirts, skirts, shorts, etc.) that extends to the length of the longest fingertip. Additionally, leggings that are sheer or athletic-style leggings with sheer cutouts must meet the four inch rule requirement.
5. Jeans, pants and skirts with holes are not permitted.
6. Length of shorts, dresses, skirts, etc., is required to be, at maximum, 4 inches above the knee when the student is standing.
7. Athletic shorts are not allowed.
8. Students are not to wear jewelry, ornaments or accessories which distract from the learning environment or may pose a safety risk/hazard (ex. Excessively large, noisy jewelry, caps, flags, quilts, and/or belts). Facial and/or tongue jewelry is not allowed for males and females. No decorative dental appliances (whether permanent or temporary) or decorative contact lenses will be allowed, unless prescribed by a physician or dentist. Males are allowed to wear earrings as long as it doesn’t distract the learning environment.
9. T-shirts or any other type of clothing or personal item bearing a reference to alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drugs, drug-related slogans and/or any other wording, drawing, pictures, etc., which in any way can be interpreted as being “off-color”, suggestive, obscene, or offensive, or relating to, death, the occult, Satanism, etc. are not permitted.
10. Clothing and/or accessories which are disruptive or distracting to the learning environment or which identifies a student as being a member of a gang or any subversive or unlawful organization will not be allowed.
11. For safety reasons, pants, shorts, skirt pockets must be visible. Shirrtails or tops that extend below the natural pocket level must be tucked into pants, shorts or skirts.
12. During the day, students are not to wear caps, hats, bandannas, sunglasses (unless prescribed by a physician) or other headwear (ex. Hoodie pulled up over head, ski hat, etc.) which completely covers the head.
13. Outerwear (coats, gloves, etc.) are not to be worn in the building during normal school time (unless temperature of individual medical problems dictate this to be appropriate).
14. All students are required to wear their hair in such a manner that is not considered unkept, unclean or impairing vision. Hair design, style or color which causes disruption to the learning process or that can be associated with gang membership is unacceptable. Hair cannot obscure the student’s face. Combs, hair picks, hair socks or curlers are not allowed to be worn.
15. Students are not to wear heavy metal chains, metal spiked apparel or accessories, etc. Belts must be fastened

and positioned completely within the belt loops with no belt excess hanging down. Suspender straps (including overall straps) must be worn on the shoulder as designed.

16. Students are required to wear appropriate shoes to school at all times. Boots with chains, steel toes, or other metal reinforcement or decorations are not allowed. Bedroom shoes/house slippers are not allowed. As deemed by the administration, unusual shoes that cause or may potentially cause a distraction are not allowed. Sandals may be worn, however, there must be straps around the back of ankle.

Discipline For Dress Code Violations

Elementary

1 st Offense	Call parent/change clothes
2 nd Offense	Call parent/change clothes
3 rd Offense	ISS/Alternate Placement In School 1 Day
4 th Offense	Refer to 299

Secondary

1 st Offense	Call parent/change clothes; if clothes can't be changed, the student will go to ISS 1 Day
2 nd Offense	Call parent/change clothes; if clothes can't be changed, the student will go to ISS 2 Days
3 rd Offense	Call parent/change clothes; 2 days OSS
4 th Offense	Refer to 299