



Newton-Conover Middle School
873 Northern Drive NW, Conover, NC 28613
Phone: 828-464-4221 Fax: 828-464-5238
Billy Cannon, Principal
Leah Hayes, Assistant Principal
Ashley Pack, Assistant Principal



Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the staff at Newton-Conover Middle School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential.

We recognize that for students to be successful in their academic careers, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you, in turn, take an active role to guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) Completes all assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 5) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- 6) Be involved and an active participant in your child's learning and educational experience.

One of the many perks of working in education is that each new school year brings with it the idea of a fresh start for our students, staff, and parents/guardians. One area of change with this school year that will impact our stakeholders is the implementation of a new "Dress Code."

This school year, Newton-Conover Middle School will operate under a new "Dress Code." Students will no longer be required to wear what stakeholders in the past have referenced as a "uniform." Instead, just as our elementary and high school students' dress is governed by a dress code and not by a uniform, so N-CMS will now be. It is believed that by extending the same level of trust to students at N-CMS that is shown to all other students in N-CCS, our students will no longer feel singled out among the rest of our district and surrounding communities.

At Newton-Conover Middle School, our staff values and acknowledges that students are individuals that have their own personal social, emotional, physical, and educational needs. Our diverse community is one of many aspects that truly makes us a unique and special place. Moving away from the previous in place "Uniform Dress Code" is one way that we have identified that will allow N-CMS students, staff, and community to embrace diversity.

I am attaching a copy of our new school "Dress Code guidelines" so that you and your child can review them together and prepare for the new school year. Please keep in mind that this year will



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be a trial year for the new “Dress Code.” The success of the new “Dress Code” will be evaluated at the conclusion of the school year. If necessary, adjustments will be made to the “Dress Code” to ensure that the environment at Newton-Conover Middle is safe, positive, and conducive to a high level of learning.

If you have any questions about the guidelines and expectations of our new “dress code”, please feel free to contact my office to discuss. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding standards related to appropriate dress attire for Newton-Conover Middle School.

If you would like to donate any lightly used uniform items to the school, you may drop them by the office. The donated items will go to replenishing our clothes closet.

The wonderful Newton-Conover Middle School staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and we look forward to making this a wonderful 2019-2020 school year.

Sincerely,

Billy Cannon, Principal of Newton-Conover Middle School

See attached: 2019-2020 Student Dress Code Guidelines



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2019-2020 STUDENT DRESS CODE

The school dress code is adopted to enhance the learning environment of Newton-Conover Middle School students. This includes field trips and after school events. Events and activities to which dress code will not be required will be announced prior to the event or activity. The following section attempts to define appropriate and inappropriate dress for all Newton-Conover Middle School students, however, not all inappropriate clothing can be listed. Therefore, school administrators will determine appropriateness or inappropriateness of dress not specifically addressed below. In addition, school administrators may make exceptions as appropriate for medical, religious, or special observances.

Tops/Shirts	Shorts/Pants/Bottoms	Outerwear
<p><u>Color:</u> Any color of shirt is acceptable</p>	<p><u>Color:</u> Any color of pants is acceptable</p>	<p><u>Color:</u> Any color of outerwear is acceptable</p>
<p><u>Types:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must contain sleeves that cover the shoulder and underarm • Hoodies can be worn even if they do not contain N-CMS color/logo. Hoods must remain off head, indoors. 	<p><u>Types:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males may wear slacks, jeans, or shorts. Females may wear slacks, jeans, capris, shorts, skorts, skirts, or dresses. • Bottoms should be appropriate size and worn above the hip at all times. 	<p><u>Types:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweatshirts, hoodies, light jackets or sweaters are permitted.



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Students should **NOT** wear:

- V-neck or low cut shirts without an appropriate shirt underneath.
- Bare midriff tops or tops that do not cover the chest and shoulders (must be at least a width of 3 inches on the shoulders; midriffs and/or cleavage may not show)
- Sleeveless shirts/tops/tank tops/halter tops
- Any top that has any inappropriate printing [gang related, acts of violence, drugs, weapons, alcohol, etc.]
- Pajamas (Tops or bottoms)

Students should **NOT** wear:

- Saggy pants worn below the waist. Exposed undergarments due to sagging pants
- Bottoms that are too tight or revealing due to tightness of material (ex.skinny jeans)
- Writing, logo or artwork that spans the buttocks/pocket areas on the back of pants, shorts or slacks.
- Slits in the hemline of any skirt, skort or dress that are more than three inches above the knee.
- Slashed or cut-up clothing that is revealing
- Rips or tears in pants must be below where the fingertips strike the legs
- Underwear worn as outerwear
- Shorts, skorts, skirts and dresses that are shorter than the fingertips when standing.
- Pants/shorts that have holes in them or are frayed above the knee.
- Tights of any kind, leggings/jeggings, or Yoga Pants worn as outerwear are not permitted unless the following criteria are met; The shirt, skirt, or dress worn with tights, leggings/jeggings, or Yoga Pants must strike the legs at the end of the fingertips; this includes form fitting sweaters and/or dresses)

Students should **NOT** wear:

- Heavy coats or coats [should be put in lockers]
- Gloves, winter scarves, and windbreakers.
- Blankets are not to be worn/carried in the building.
- Hair curlers, hats, sunglasses, pick/combs, headbands, bandannas, toboggans, do-rags, and other headwear are not permitted to be worn in the building.
- Hoods are not permitted to be worn in the building.

- APPROPRIATE logos and print are permitted on Tops and Outerwear as long as the logo/print does not distract from the educational environment. Students are encouraged to wear Newton-Conover Middle School and other Newton-Conover City Schools system member school t-shirts, sports jerseys or uniforms and sweatshirts.
- No inappropriate symbols, words, pictures, or articles depicting violence, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, sex, vulgarity, demeaning to race, or gang related
- Book bags/Duffel bags are not permitted into classrooms. Students must keep book bags/duffel bags in a



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school issued locker.

Shoes

Students are required to wear shoes at all times. No shower shoes, bedroom shoes (slippers) or shoes with heels higher than two inches

Jewelry

No jewelry that poses a danger to students is allowed. Oversized necklaces, oversized rings, spiked jewelry, wallet chains, etc. cannot be worn. Piercings that pose a safety hazard; small body piercings are allowed as long as it does not pose a safety hazard to the student [i.e. large nose ring or lip ring]

Non-compliance

Any student violating the dress code will be asked to change the inappropriate clothing. Student may be required to attend in-school suspension until proper clothing is obtained. Should the student have repeated violations of the dress code, parents will be notified and asked to help correct the situation. Repeated violations may result in disciplinary action.