

SOUTH PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY

The South Pasadena High School Dress Code is designed to ensure a focused learning environment on campus that fosters physical cleanliness and mutual respect amongst students and staff. Self-expression in dress is encouraged on campus but must be limited where it may intrude upon the rights of others to a comfortable school setting. The Code is also designed to present a consistent image of South Pasadena High School as a place of learning.

What Must Be Covered: Range of skin from the armpit to ***The Bottom Line*** (see definition).

The Bottom Line: A hand's width below the bottom of the buttocks.

When the body is **standing straight**, clothing (any combination of tops and bottoms) must extend from armpit level to the ***Bottom Line***, **front and back**. No skin must be seen within this range. Bare midriffs are prohibited. Sheer clothing must be worn accordingly:

- Skirts must extend half of the length between the hips and the knees.
- Underwear must be worn.
- No underwear may be visible, including but not limited to boxers, briefs, bras and bra straps, panties, thongs.
- No bare feet are allowed.

Prohibited items of clothing:

- Clothing or accessories that may be construed as a weapon, including but not limited to chains, spiked bands.
- Hats, bandanas, visors, beanies, berets and caps **inside buildings**.
- Strapless tops.
- Those bearing derogatory messages or images (racial, ethnic, religious, gender or sexual slurs).
- Those bearing sexual suggestion.
- Those bearing connotations of violence.
- Those bearing connotations of drugs or alcohol.
- Those bearing profanity.
- Those bearing gang-affiliated symbols.

Where the Dress Code is in effect:

On campus during school hours.

At school functions (e.g. football games, dances).

Penalties for violations:

*Dress code requirements for formal dances (e.g. Winter Formal and the Prom) will vary slightly from the normal Dress Code Policy. **Student dress code violations will result in denied access and may prohibit admission to other school dances for the remainder of the academic year.***

Any faculty or staff member may issue a student referral for dress code violation. Dress code violations will become part of the student's discipline record. Students are expected to know the provisions of the Dress Code Policy. Therefore, violators will be subject to the following progression of penalties **without previous warning**:

First offense: The student will receive a verbal warning and assigned loaner clothes from Student Services (see Loaner Policy) unless the student can supply appropriate cover-up clothing or notify a parent to bring clothing.

Second and every repeated offense thereafter: Same as above; In addition, the student is assigned Saturday School detention (4 Hours). The Student Services Office notifies the student's parents. The student may be suspended for continued willful disobedience.

Loaner Policy: Loaner clothes must be returned to Student Services within two days. Clothes must be washed before being returned. If a student fails to return the clothes, the student will be assigned Saturday School.