

WEST ISD STUDENT DRESS CODE

West ISD's student dress code supports equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes. The desire of the district is to present changes in a positive format; however, the most effective manner in which to explain the changes is to list the prohibited dress and/or grooming practices. The cooperation of parents and students and the consistent and fair enforcement of this policy by school staff are essential to the effectiveness of the dress code.

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, immigration status, or any other basis prohibited by law, that adversely affects the student.

Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat, and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others. The campus principal has the final decision as to what constitutes appropriate school attire. The campus principal also has the discretion to determine the appropriateness of attire and grooming for religious and/or medical necessities.

The following modes of dress or grooming are not permitted:

General

- Any aspect of a student's appearance or attire that is inappropriate for the school setting or likely to distract or disrupt the learning environment, including images or messages that are illegal, inappropriate, lewd, vulgar, sexually suggestive, containing profanity, or promoting violation of school rules (i.e., promoting drugs, tobacco use, alcohol, violence, gangs, death, sex, profanity, or hate).

Upper Garments

- Sleeveless tops and tops with straps with a width less than 2 inches.
- Halter tops, tube tops, or backless garments (unless worn over appropriate garments).
- Thin, see-through garments, unbuttoned tops, or overalls (unless worn over appropriate garments).
- Midriff (i.e., a top that does not fall below the waistband or the top of the lower garment; a top that shows skin around the waistband or top of the lower garment).
- Exposed undergarments, undergarments worn as outerwear, or nightwear.

Lower Garments

- Garments shorter than fingertip length with arms hanging naturally as student is standing straight and upright.
- Garments worn below waist (i.e., "sagging").
- Exposed undergarments, undergarments worn as outerwear, or nightwear.

- Leggings, leotards, bike shorts, or hosiery worn with an upper garment shorter than fingertip length with arms hanging naturally as student is standing straight and upright.
- Garments with slits, holes, or tears shorter than fingertip length with arms hanging naturally as student is standing straight and upright.

Footwear

- Flip flops, house shoes, bare feet, cleats, or shoes with wheels.

Outerwear

- Trench coats, dusters, and one-piece jump suits.

Headwear

- Hats, caps, bandannas, hoods, sweatbands, or other head coverings inside the school.
- Sunglasses inside the school (except with a signed note from the school nurse).

Hair and Grooming

- Non-natural colored hair (e.g., green, blue, purple, orange, etc.).
- Hair worn in a manner to cover the eyes.
- Hair longer than the shirt collar on male students.
- Beards or mustaches.

Accessories

- Visible piercings other than on the ear.
- Band-aides, gages, plastic spacers, sticks, bars, etc. to conceal piercings.
- Earrings on male students.
- Heavy or spiked jewelry (e.g., dog collars, spiked bracelets or belts, etc.).
- Visible tattoos deemed disruptive or inappropriate as described in the “General” section.
- Chains on clothing or wallets.