

Dress and Grooming (All Grade Levels)

GRAPE CREEK ISD STUDENT DRESS CODE

Approved by District Site Base April 18, 2012 - Amended: October 10, 2017

Approved by the GCISD Board of Trustees May 14, 2012 – Amended: October 16, 2017

Approved by District Site Base April 18, 2018

Approved by GCISD Board of Trustees May 21, 2018

The district's student dress code is being updated to better fit the current styles and fashion trends as well as to better express our expectations of appropriate student dress. The focus of the student dress code is to teach grooming and hygiene, minimize safety hazards and to promote modesty and reduce distractions in our quest for student academic success.

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. The district expects students to come to school in clothes that are clean and neat, and expects students to exhibit basic cleanliness and grooming that will not be a health or safety threat to themselves or to other students or staff. While GCISD respects students' desires to express themselves in their clothing and grooming styles, it does not permit students to wear clothing with pictures, emblems, or writing that is lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene or that advertises or depicts tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance that students are prohibited from having or using at school. Any clothing, haircuts or accessories will not be allowed if they distract from the normal educational process (e.g. Mohawks, rat tails or geometric designs shaved into hairstyles). **These standards will apply during school hours and at all school-related/sponsored events. The principal or designee makes decisions about dress and grooming violations.**

Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

- Shoes must be worn at ALL times. House shoes are not permitted. Flip flops or backless shoes are not allowed at the Primary or Intermediate campuses. (This is a safety issue.) Shoelaces must remain tied.
- Shorts may be worn. The hem of shorts, skirts, and dresses must be within 3 ½ inches (credit card length) from the top of the knee cap (formerly the "fingertip rule").
- Outer clothing made from Lycra material will not be acceptable attire for students; however, leggings are appropriate with a shirt length that hits the student mid-thigh or below.
- Any apparel that advertises or implies sex, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, profanity, violence etc., or that may distract from the learning process (including unusual hairstyles or color), is NOT permitted. Low-cut, suggestive, or revealing clothing is not acceptable.
- No head coverings of any type will be worn inside the school building by either male or female students, except for extra-curricular activities or those approved by the principal.
- Muscle shirts, shirts with cut-out sleeves, **racer-back shirts** or pajama-type clothing are prohibited with the exception of those participating in athletic activities.
- Tank tops less than three of the wearer's fingers wide at the top are prohibited.
- Shirts designed to be buttoned MUST be buttoned. Shirts designed to be tucked into pants, shorts or skirts must be tucked inside pants, shorts or skirts. Shirts shall be worn with only one button open at the collar. (Layering is allowed.)
- Transparent clothes are NOT allowed.
- Apparel that allows the stomach to show under normal circumstances will not be allowed.
- No spaghetti straps or clothing that allows "under clothing" to be visible will be permitted. Low-cut, "suggestive", see-through or "revealing" clothing is not acceptable.

- Students will not be permitted to wear sunglasses in the building. Permission must be granted if requested by a doctor.
- Extracurricular organizations may develop guidelines and requirements for participation in their respective activities with the approval of administration.
- Visible body piercings shall be limited to ear piercings and, for high school students only, nose studs. All other visible piercings, including retainers or spacers, are prohibited. **Prohibited piercings must be removed – covering them is not acceptable.**
- Tattoos must be covered at school.
- No names or insignias that represent public school fraternities, sororities, secret societies, or gangs, as described in TEC 37.121 shall be worn. Any attire or grooming related to negative group behavior will not be permitted.
- No wallet chains or chains with large medallions will be allowed.
- No sagging. Pants must be worn no lower than the point of the hip.
- No low-rise (hip-hugging) styled pants, shorts or skirts are allowed. All pants, shorts or skirts must be hemmed and in good repair.
- Jeans/slacks/skirts with holes will not be permitted. Jeans with holes are allowable only if no skin is exposed. (Students may wear leggings underneath jeans with holes in them to ensure all skin is covered.)
- A student's hair will be neat and well-groomed at all times and shall not obstruct vision. Facial hair must be neatly groomed as determined by the campus administrator. All hairstyles and facial hair must be non-distracting and all hair must be of a natural hair color.

If your child comes to school wearing clothes that violate the dress code or in any other way violates our dress and grooming standards, she or he may be placed in in-school suspension until she or he is in compliance. The district will make efforts to notify you as soon as possible, and if the student changes clothes or otherwise comes into compliance with the dress and grooming standards, she or he will return to regular classes immediately. Please note the fact that students involved in extracurricular activities may be subject to stricter dress and grooming rules than is outlined above. Please consult extracurricular coaches and sponsors for more information.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student may be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.