

## VICTORIA ISD DRESS & GROOMING: GENERAL GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS FOR 2018-19

### General Guidelines

The District's dress code reflects high expectations for success for all students. It promotes school safety, teaches cooperation, grooming, hygiene, respect for authority, and instills self-discipline. The dress code prepares students for future settings, underscores the importance of dress and grooming in a manner that attire will not be a health or safety hazard nor an education distracter to themselves, others, and society. The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards provided they comply with these general guidelines and the District's dress standards.

The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the principal's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations. The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings that are violent, lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene or that advertise or depict weapons, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs or any other substance prohibited under Policy FNCF (LOCAL).

Exemptions for religious or medical reasons may be addressed through campus administration. When medically necessary and upon presentation of a recent statement from a medical doctor stating the medical necessity, the campus may waive certain provisions of the dress standards. The waiver must be medically related and when possible for a specified period of time. A campus may request an updated medical statement if it appears the medical condition no longer exists.

### Dress Standards

The campus site-based decision making teams may recommend exceptions to the traditional dress code for approval by the principal and superintendent. Exceptions to the dress code due to unusual situations may be left to the discretion of the building principal on an individual basis in consultation with the superintendent or his designee. Exceptions to the dress code may be made at District Alternative Education Program (DAEP) locations. Dress standards for DAEP students will be determined by the campus administrator and clearly communicated.

### Special Events or Activities

Administration shall have authority to waive the wearing of standardized dress for certain days due to special events or special activities. Students who choose not to participate in the special events or activities are expected to adhere to VISD dress code standards.

### Extra-Curricular Dress Code

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate dress and grooming standards established for such an activity may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor, and may be subject to other disciplinary action as specified in the *Student Code of Conduct*.

## Compliance

If a student attends school in violation of the dress code, disciplinary steps as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct* and *Student Handbook* will be taken. If the principal determines that a student's grooming violates the dress code, the student shall be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school or may be directed to the appropriate resources to be in compliance. If not corrected, the student shall be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the *Student Code of Conduct*. Appropriate discipline procedures shall be followed in all cases.

## Final Authority

School administrators will have complete and final judgment on all matters concerning interpretation of the student dress code. Principals at the secondary level will develop enforcement guidelines to assure consistency in implementing the district dress code.

## STUDENT STANDARDS OF DRESS

### Dress and Grooming Guidelines for Grades Pre-K through 5

*All clothing must be appropriately sized. Clothing may not be oversized or baggy.*

#### Shirts/Blouses

- All shirts, blouses, sweaters, sweatshirts and tops with waistbands that are not tucked in must be neatly hemmed and fall no longer than the fingertips while standing. If it does not comply with these standards, it must be tucked in.
- The midriff section must be kept covered at all times. Female student's neckline must not show cleavage.
- Tank tops, halter tops, muscle shirts, string straps, or shirts with torn out/frayed sleeves are not permitted. White undershirts worn by themselves are not permitted. Male students may not wear sleeveless shirts.
- No clothing containing graphics related to gangs, depicting illegal activities or substances or glorifying blood, gore, weapons, or violence will be allowed.

#### Shorts/Skort/Pants/Leggings

- Shorts, skorts, or pants must be appropriately fitted, may not be oversized or of a baggy style and must not reveal undergarments or buttocks.
- Shorts and skorts must be no shorter than fingertip length while standing.
- Leggings are only permitted under skirts, dresses, tops, and blouses that are no shorter than fingertip length while standing.
- Pajama bottoms, biking shorts, wind shorts, and workout shorts are not permitted.

#### Dresses/Skirts/Split Skirts

- Dresses and skirts must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee while standing. The "top of the slit on the dress/skirt" must be no higher than three (3) inches above the knee while standing.

#### Outerwear

- Outerwear is defined as anything worn over the standardized dress, such as, but not limited to hoodies, jackets and coats.
- All jackets, sweaters and sweatshirts must be appropriately sized.
- Trench coats and any other outerwear deemed by administration to be a distraction or potential safety hazard will not be permitted. Campus administration has the authority to impose additional standards for outerwear.

### **Fabrics and Undergarments**

- See-through fabrics or materials that show skin or undergarments is not permitted.
- Torn/frayed/ripped clothing that shows skin or undergarments is not permitted.
- Appropriate undergarments must be worn and should not be visible.

### **Shoes**

- Shoes shall be worn at all times.
- Shoes should be appropriate for identified physical and instructional activities.
- Shoes with taps, grooves, wheels, house shoes/house slippers, and rubber shower shoes (three prong type) are not allowed.

### **Caps/Hats/Headgear**

- Caps, hats, headgear, and hoods on hoodies, jackets, and coats may not be worn inside the building unless a written statement of medical need is provided.

### **Tattoos**

- All tattoos must be covered.

### **Hair**

- Hair must not cover the eyes.
- Hair must be of a natural color.
- Mohawk haircuts are not allowed.
- Hair nets, hair curlers, and hair accessories, such as, but not limited to, oriental hair pins, hat pins, or genie cones that could be used to hurt others are not permitted.

### **Accessories**

- Accessories (such as distracting jewelry, wallet/pocket chains, spiked or studded rings and collars, mouth grills, etc.) which can be deemed dangerous or inappropriate are not allowed.
- Bandanas are not allowed.
- Female students may wear no more than two earrings per ear. Earrings may not be worn by male students nor be covered with bandages. Nothing is allowed in or on boys' ears, including but not limited to: posts, strings, wire, band-aids, or staples. Earrings worn anywhere except the ears are prohibited for all students.
- Gauges are not allowed.

### **Glasses/Contact Lenses**

- Dark-lensed glasses are not permitted unless a written statement of medical need is provided by a physician or eye care specialist.
- Contact lenses that are not natural color and are disruptive to the educational environment will not be permitted.