

# STUDENT DRESS CODE

The policy of the Tangipahoa Parish School Board shall be that no mode of attire will be considered proper for school wear that disrupts the classroom and/or the school's positive learning environment. The principal or his/her designee of each school shall make the final decision as to what is considered proper or improper dress according to the guidelines provided.

The Board's position is that it wants to teach each student to use good judgment in his/her total appearance so that the attention of others is not distracted from the purpose of the school. Cleanliness and the values of the community shall be a basic consideration.

## BODY ARMOR

It shall be unlawful and against School Board policy for any student or non-student to wear or possess on his/her person, at any time, body armor on any School Board property, school campus, at a school-sponsored function, on a school bus or other school transportation, or in a firearm-free zone, with limited exception as enumerated in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §14:95.9. School-sponsored functions shall include, but not be limited to, athletic competitions, dances, parties, or any extracurricular activities. A firearm-free zone means any area within one thousand feet of any school campus and within a school bus.

Body armor shall mean bullet-resistant metal or other material intended to provide protection from weapons or bodily injury.

The School Board shall notify all students of the provisions of this policy.

## DRESS AND GROOMING GUIDELINES

The dress and grooming of the students shall be that which, in the opinion of the ordinary reasonable person, contributes to the health and safety of the individual and which is non-disruptive to the educational activities and processes of a school. No student shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, blade, symbols, sign or other things which are evidence of affiliation with drugs, alcohol, violence or gang related activities or exhibits profane or obscene language/gestures.

### Dress Code Regulations

**The following regulations apply for grades K-3:**

1. Appropriate clothing and footwear shall be worn.
2. Earrings may be worn in ears by females. Earrings shall not be worn by male students at school or any school-related activity.

**The following regulations apply for grades 4-12:**

1. Hairstyles and mustaches shall be clean, neatly groomed and shall not distract from the learning environment nor be a safety factor for any of the school's curricular offerings. Beards will not be allowed. Any hairstyles that distract from the unique environment of a school shall be dealt with by the principal or his/her designee of that school.
2. Earrings may be worn in ears by females. Earrings shall not be worn by male students at school or any school-related activity.
3. No sleeveless garments shall be worn.
4. No hats, caps, or other head wear shall be worn on school campuses on regular school days, except when a medical condition or religious belief so warrants.
5. Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 will be allowed to wear loose-fitting walking shorts if the bottom of the garment is knee-length. No shorts shall be worn to school by students in grades 7-12.
6. No midriff shirts or blouses shall be worn.
7. Appropriate foot wear shall be worn to school (no shower shoes or flip-flops).
8. Students who participate in extracurricular activities (e.g. cheerleaders, spirit group dancers, band members, other drill teams) cannot wear the group's uniform to class.
9. Modifications to the dress code may be made only with the approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.
10. All pants must be worn at the waistline and if pants have belt loops a belt must be worn. All items of clothing must be worn as intended by design.
11. All shirt tails must be worn tucked inside garments.

\* Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will be allowed to wear loose-fitting walking shorts if the bottom of the garment is knee-length.

## UNIFORM REGULATIONS

### Pants

**All students (boys and girls) pants shall be as follows:**

Khaki or navy color twill "slacks" with or without pleats, with or without belt loops (if belt loops, students must wear a belt), with or without pockets.

NO khaki or navy color jeans shall be worn.

NO brand name or label of any type can be displayed on the slacks.

Pants must be bought in the child's appropriate size. No "sagging" no over-sized pants, no wide-legged, no bell bottoms, no cargo, no safari, or carpenter pants shall be allowed.

### Shirts

All students K-12 shall have a choice of long or short sleeve, polo style (pull over) or oxford style (button up) white or navy color shirts. Each school shall have an option of a school color shirt to wear (principal's discretion and approval). Turtleneck shirts or shirts with a zipper are not acceptable.

Solid white T-shirts may be worn under regular uniform shirts. The sleeves of the shirts worn under the regular uniform shirts can be long or short and extend past the sleeve of the top shirt. Thermal underwear and turtleneck shirts are not allowed.

Elementary girls shall have an option to wear the "Peter Pan" collar white button up blouse.

### Outer Garments

Campus and/or classroom wear shall consist of navy, white or school chosen color sweater (pull over, vest, button up, zipper, or snap) sweatshirt or windbreaker.

Students/grades Pre-K through 12 shall be allowed to wear jackets or sweatshirts with a hood with the stipulation that hoods shall be removed upon entering a building. Jackets or sweatshirts should be blue, white or school chosen color and students should be allowed to wear them in a classroom. A regulation uniform shirt must be worn under all jackets or sweatshirts.

Students shall be allowed to wear school-sponsored organization jackets, sweatshirts and sweaters, i.e. FFA, BETA, athletic, etc. inside buildings and classrooms with the stipulation that the garments should be blue, white or the school chosen color. Outer garments with any other labels are unacceptable..

### Shoes

All shoes shall consist of a closed back and front.

No sandals, wedged soles, platforms, high heels, "cros," slippers, shower shoes, flip flops, or knee-high shoes shall be allowed.

### Jumpers

Optional to wear K-12 in khaki or navy color twill ONLY.

Basic A-line jumper or bib jumper.

### Skirts

Skirts may be worn K-12 in khaki or navy color twill ONLY.

### Shorts/Skortis

Shorts/skortis may be worn according to School Board policy. Loose-fitting walking shorts are allowed in grades K-6 only, and the bottom of the garment shall be knee-length.

Khaki or navy color twill ONLY.

### Belts

Belts must be a solid color (black, navy blue, khaki, or brown) and must be made of a solid material (no cloth, glitter or multicolor)

Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms, logos, holes, studs, etc. are prohibited.

Belts must be the appropriate length for the student's waist size.

Belt buckles must be plain, standard style.

Elementary students shall be encouraged to wear belts.

Belts shall be mandatory for middle school, junior high school and high school students when wearing slacks or shorts.

## SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The superintendent and/or his/her designee shall consider for approval all deviations to the uniform policy for special occasions/events upon written request from the school principal.

1. Positive Behavior Support
  - A. Once per six weeks to reward students for good behavior.
  - B. Students may wear uniform pants and school spirit shirt.
2. Charity Events
  - A. Twice per year.
  - B. The superintendent will establish a consistent fee to use throughout the School System.
  - C. Students may wear jeans with uniform shirt.
  - D. Staff members may wear jeans.

### Violations

**Violations of the Dress Code shall be addressed as follows:**

1. The student shall be sent to the office. If the determination is made that the student is in violation of the Dress Code, the following steps will be taken:
  - a. The parents shall be notified of the violation; and
  - b. Requested to bring proper clothing to the school.
2. If the parents cannot be contacted by phone, or if proper clothing is not brought to the school, the student will be sent to a designated area determined by the principal or designee. Also a letter shall be sent home to the parents stating the violation and reminding them that suspension will result in future offenses.
3. Whenever a student has violated the Dress Code a second time, the student may be suspended for one (1) day due to disrespect for authority.

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Ref: Scott v. Board of Education, 304 N.Y.S.S. 2d 601 (1969); Karr v. Schmidt; 460 F. 2d 609 (5th Cir. 1972); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. "14:95.9, 17:81, 17:416.7; Board minutes, 8-5-86, 9-6-88, 1-17-89, 6-19-90, 7-9-91, 8-4-92, 11-17-92, 7-6-93, 4-18-95, 3-18-97, 4-20-99, 6-14-99, 7-20-99, 12-7-99, 10-16-00, 5-15-01, 9-4-01, 6-19-07, 11-6-07, 3-4-08, 12-9-08., 3-17-09.