

**DRESS CODE**  
**(adopted by School Board May, 2007)**

The administration will be the final judge about whether a student's clothing is appropriate for school or whether it will create an environmental climate that is distracting to learning. Principals, faculty and staff members will enforce the dress code.

The principal may waive the dress code or specific sections for school spirit days and other special occasions.

Requirements for student dress in the Appomattox County Public Schools are:

1. Tops must cover the shoulders, midriff, chest, cleavage, back, sides, and all undergarments including bra straps at all times. No shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts or top may be longer than the bottom of the buttocks when the student is standing. Tops which hang below the bottom of the buttocks must be tucked in.
2. Tank-style and halter style tops, tank-style shirts, and muscle shirts shall be worn either over or under a shirt with sleeves.
3. Shorts, skirts, divided skirts, dresses and skorts are permitted. -For students in grades 6-12, they must reach the top of the knee or longer when the student is standing. The top of a slit in a skirt, dress or other lower garment must be no higher than the top of the knee when standing. For students in grades pre-k through 5, they must reach mid-thigh or fingertip length, whichever is longer, when standing.
4. All trousers, pants or shorts must totally cover undergarments, including boxer shorts. They are to be worn at the student's natural waist at all times. Sagging or baggy pants or shorts are not permitted. No holes or tears are permitted in trousers, pants or shorts.
5. Clothing and shoes must be properly buttoned, zipped, tied, or fastened at all times.
6. All clothing, jewelry or tattoos shall be free of the following: offensive pictures or logos depicting nudity, references to violence, profanity, vulgarity, alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco products, gangs, race, sexual preferences, and derogatory statements about physical, emotional, or intellectual abilities.
7. See through, athletic, or mesh fabric clothing may only be worn over clothing meeting requirements. School-issued uniforms may be worn during physical education classes.

8. Form fitting clothing or skin tight clothing such as leotards, leggings, Spandex, Lycra, and biker type clothing (including sport bras) may only be worn if covered by an outer garment that meets the requirements of the dress code.
9. Safe and appropriate footwear must be worn. Inappropriate footwear includes, but is not limited to, bedroom slippers, cleats, shoes with rollers or wheels, and footwear with metal heel plates. Appropriate athletic shoes are to be worn for physical education class and recess.
10. Clothing or footwear traditionally designed as sleepwear shall not be worn.
11. Hats, caps, bandanas, sweatbands, do-rags, curlers, hoods, or other similar head coverings shall not be worn to class or within the school buildings, except for medical or religious reasons. Picks or combs in hair are not permitted. Students may use a hat or headband for physical education classes with the approval of the teacher. Hats, caps and hoods may be worn while riding the school bus. (Items may be confiscated.)
12. Belts must be buckled and suspenders worn on the shoulders and fastened at the waist. Heavy chains, spiked necklaces, spiked bracelets, spiked belts or belts with protrusions, and oversized jewelry or accessories that pose a safety concern for the student or others are not permitted.
13. Sunglasses and gloves may be worn only outside except for those students with valid medical documentation.
14. Lettering across the buttocks of a garment is not permitted.
15. Trench or duster type coats are not permitted.
16. Due to the different physical designs of schools, the principal will have discretion as to the wearing of coats, jackets and other outdoor wear during the school day.