

Student Dress Code Policy 5/9/22

It is Winburn Middle School's policy that the student and their parent/guardian hold the primary responsibility in determining the student's personal attire, hairstyle, and jewelry and that these do not interfere with the health or safety of any student and do not contribute to a hostile or intimidating environment for any student.

Core Values

In relation to student dress, our core values include the following:

- Students should be able to dress and style their hair for school in a manner that expresses their individuality without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming;
- Students have the right to be treated equitably. Dress code enforcement will not create disparities, reinforce or increase marginalization of any group, nor will it be more strictly enforced against students because of racial identity, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, gender nonconformity, sexual orientation, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity;
- Students and staff are responsible for managing their personal distractions; and
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

Universal Dress Expectations

Students must wear:

- Top
 - Shirt, blouse, sweater, sweatshirt, etc.
- Bottom
 - pants, shorts, skirt, dress, etc.
 - Must be worn at a length to address situations where students might have to bend over to a bottom locker to ensure the body is covered appropriately.
- Footwear
 - Shoes
 - For safety purposes, sandals must be held in place with heel strap. Steel-toed shoes, skate shoes and slippers are not permitted. Cleats are not permitted except as required for athletic/sports purposes.

All bags (e.g. Backpacks, handbags and satchels) large enough for a Chromebook or binder must be mesh or clear. Lockers/Cubbies are provided for heavy winter coats and purses.

This policy permits additional student attire requirements when necessary to ensure safety in certain academic settings (e.g. physical activity, science or CTE courses). Additionally, this policy allows for reasonable variation in required student attire for participation in athletics (e.g. volleyball).

Students may not wear clothing, jewelry, or personal items that:

- Are pornographic, contain threats, or that promote illegal or violent conduct such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or drug paraphernalia, including clothing with gaming images that promote such;
- Demonstrate hate group association/affiliation and/or use hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or other protected groups;
- **Intentionally show the stomach or private area (nipples, genitals, buttocks) or undergarments (underwear, boxers, bras, bralettes, camisoles) or area of the body usually covered with an undergarment.** Clothing must cover private areas and undergarments in opaque (not able to be seen-through) material.
- Cover the student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable. Student's ears must be visible at all times and headphones/earbuds may not be worn as a fashion choice. (except clothing/headgear worn for a religious or medical purpose).
- Demonstrate gang association/affiliation.

Attire worn in observance of a student's religion is not subject to this policy.

Clarity and Communication

To ensure clarity amongst staff and students, The Universal Dress Code will often be referred to as "The 7 B's". These will be addressed to students and families in the school handbook, orientation nights, and the first days of classes. "The 7 B's" will also be communicated on posters throughout school so students and staff have clear reminders and understanding of the Universal Dress Code. The 7 B's will be communicated as follows:

At Winburn Middle School, students must follow the 7 Bs:

1. No *Breasts* ()
2. No *Buttocks* (your bottom and undergarments must not be visible)
3. No *Bellies* (your stomach must not be visible)
4. No *Brimms* (no hats with visors or bills, no hoods, your eyes, ears and mouth must be visible- *unless wearing a mask for health reasons*)
5. No *Buds* (no ear buds or headphones to be worn unless in use during class to listen to videos as instructed by the classroom teacher)

6. No *Bad Topics* (no inappropriate language or images)
7. *Bags* must be mesh or clear (e.g. backpacks, satchels or handbags)

Enforcement

Admin will ensure that all staff are aware of and understand the guidelines of this policy. Admin discretion may apply.

Staff will use reasonable efforts to avoid dress-coding students in front of other students.

Students shall not be disciplined or removed from class as a consequence for wearing attire in violation of this policy unless the attire creates a substantial disruption to the educational environment, poses a hazard to the health or safety of others, or factors into a student behavior rule violation such as malicious harassment or the prohibition on harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Further, no student shall be referred to as “a distraction” due to their appearance or attire.

Typical consequences for a violation of this policy include parent/guardian contact or conference and the directive to cover, change, or remove the non-complying attire. A student may be instructed to leave their classroom briefly to change clothes. Administration will notify a student's parent/guardian of the school's response to violations of the student dress policy.