

2019 – 2020 La Porte Independent School District Elementary Dress Code (Prekindergarten – 5th Grade)

LPISD believes that personal appearance matters both in the workplace and in the community. The purpose for the student dress code is to encourage students to take responsibility for appropriate appearance both at school and within the La Porte community. The intent is not to be overly restrictive, but rather to teach hygiene, instill pride and self-discipline, prevent disruption, minimize safety hazards, and teach respect for authority and property.

All students are required to follow the District student dress code for school attendance and for attendance at school-sponsored activities. Exceptions to the dress code for special events, medical, or religious requirements will be considered on an individual basis. Students not dressed in accordance with the dress code will be warned about their clothing, required to change clothing, and/or removed to an alternative setting for the remainder of the day. Disciplinary consequences will result.

Specific Basic Dress Code Guidelines for all PK – 5th Grade Students

❖ Clothing Basics:

- Clean, non-distracting, appropriate fit and in good repair
- All students must wear appropriate under garments
- The following are prohibited on clothing:
 - Lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene signs or gestures
 - Tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, weapons, speech or graphics reasonably likely to incite violence, satanic symbols, skulls, crossbones, blood or death
 - Evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang, unauthorized club or organization

❖ Accessories:

- Backpacks, satchels and briefcases must be clear, transparent or mesh
- Personal bags including purses, hip bags, cross-bodies in excess of 8" x 10" shall be prohibited
- Personal or school-issued equipment bags such as, but not limited to athletic equipment bags, musical instruments, art portfolios are to be stored in designated areas. These designated areas include athletic locker rooms, fine arts facilities and other areas as specified by campus administration.
- Lunch kits in excess of 9" x 10" shall be stored in a designated area specified by campus administration
- No chains (i.e. billfold chains and chains on pants)
- No sunglasses, hats, bandanas, gloves or head/hand coverings indoors
- Pierced jewelry should not distract from the learning environment
- Tattoos and other drawings on the skin must be covered

❖ Slacks/Jeans/Pants/Shorts:

- Any color (designs included) that does not violate the clothing basics
- Appropriately sized and worn at the natural waistline
- No holes, tears, or rips in pants, including those purchased with fashion tears that expose skin
- Shorts must be mid-thigh length or longer

❖ Dresses/Jumpers/Skirts/Skorts:

- Any color (designs included)
- Must be mid-thigh length or longer
- Dresses
 - Collars not required
 - No strapless, backless, or spaghetti straps
 - Shoulder straps must be shoulder width

❖ Shirts:

- Any color or pattern that does not violate clothing basics
- Low cut, sheer or revealing tops are not permitted
- Shirts must not expose undergarments or bare the midriff

❖ Shoes:

- Any color
- Closed toe and heel (no sandals, flip-flops, or clogs, cleats or skate shoes)
- Rubber soles

❖ Socks/Hosiery:

- Worn at all times
- Leggings/tights/yoga pants must be worn as hosiery under skirts, tunics, dresses (mid-thigh or longer)

❖ Coats/Hoodies/Sweaters/Jackets/Vests/Sweatshirts:

- Any color or design that does not violate clothing basics
- May not be used to cover garments that would otherwise be a dress code violation
- Full-length or oversized outerwear apparel, such as those commonly referred to as trench coats, dusters and like garments, are prohibited.
- Hoods may not be worn inside the building at any time.

❖ Hair:

- Clean, neatly groomed, and non-distracting

❖ Other:

- No make-up

Any form of dress or appearance determined by the principal to be disruptive to the learning environment will be prohibited.

In the interest of promoting student safety and attempting to ensure that schools are safe and drug free, district officials may from time to time conduct searches. School officials may search a student's clothing and pockets if they have reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated a school rule or possesses contraband. Such searches are conducted without a warrant and as permitted by law.

❖ Violation Actions

- 1st Offense- Clothing replacement with notice home
- 2nd Offense- Clothing replacement with notice home and lunch detention
- 3rd Offense- Clothing replacement with notice home, lunch detention and parent conference

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.