

5511 DRESS AND GROOMING

Numerous viewpoints exist regarding the extent to which pupil dress should be regulated. It is generally felt that the school has a responsibility to assist pupils in developing an understanding of what constitutes "good taste" and acceptable practice in this area. It is also recognized that this responsibility cannot rest with the school alone. As with many aspects of our society, the home and other community agencies, along with the school, must assume a responsibility for the development of positive attitudes and values within a safe environment.

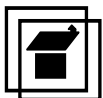
- A. The provisions in the dress code for high school pupils (grades nine through twelve) in Edison Township have been formulated after careful consideration by a committee representing parent(s) or legal guardian(s), pupils and teachers. These provisions are intended to serve as guidelines in determining acceptable wearing apparel for school and to ensure that the matter of school dress does not become a disruptive factor in the educational process. All clothes should uphold the principles of safety, health, modesty and good grooming.
1. No apparel that promotes or endorses illegal substances, i.e., drugs, alcohol or tobacco products. In addition, clothing with messages deemed offensive, profuse, profane or inappropriate as judged by the administration;
 2. No strapless or see-through tops, bustierre or bare midriffs. Additional layers should be worn when underwear is worn as outerwear;
 3. Tank tops, sleeveless tops and tops with thin straps are permitted, but the tops must fall reasonably close to the neckline and fall directly below the underarm to insure that the torso and undergarments are not exposed inappropriately;
 4. No sunglasses may be worn during the school day (unless medically prescribed);
 5. No short shorts; the pant leg of shorts should have a reasonable extension. "Ripped jeans" should not be "ripped" in areas which could be considered inappropriate as judged by the administration;
 6. No hats or outerwear, such as winter coats, raincoats, heavy jackets, etc., may be worn or carried during the school day. Jackets (excluding varsity jackets) that are part of a uniform or warm-up suit, as well as light spring-type jackets or windbreakers, are permitted during the school day;

Note: On special occasion days, such as School Spirit Day, the Principal is authorized to permit the wearing of hats.



7. Ski masks are not permitted to be worn in school. Any similar type of hats or hoods that hide the face are not permitted and will be confiscated; and
 8. No sweatbands, scarves or bandannas may be worn or visibly displayed in the school building.
- B. The provisions in the dress code for middle school pupils (grades six through eight) in Edison Township have been formulated after careful consideration by a committee representing parent(s) or legal guardian(s), pupils and teachers. These provisions are intended to serve as guidelines in determining acceptable wearing apparel for school and to ensure that the matter of school dress does not become a disruptive factor in the educational process. All clothes should uphold the principles of health and safety.
1. All clothes should uphold the principle of modesty. For example, bare midriffs, underwear worn as outer-wear, and strapless or see-through tops are prohibited.
 2. Pupils should adhere to the practices of good grooming. For example: clothes should be neat and clean; boys are urged to be clean shaven, and slacks and shorts must be hemmed;
 3. No apparel that promotes or endorses illegal substances, i.e., drugs, alcohol or tobacco products. In addition, clothing with messages deemed offensive, profuse, profane or inappropriate as judged by the administration;
 4. Tank tops and sleeveless tops are permitted, but the tops must fall reasonably close to the neckline and fall directly below the underarm to insure that the torso and undergarments are not exposed inappropriately;
 5. No sunglasses may be worn during the school day (unless medically prescribed);
 6. No short shorts; the pant leg of shorts should have a reasonable extension. "Ripped jeans" should not be "ripped" in areas which could be considered inappropriate as judged by the administration;
 7. No hats or outerwear, such as winter coats, raincoats, heavy jackets, etc., may be worn or carried during the school day. Jackets (excluding varsity jackets) that are part of a uniform or warm-up suit, as well as light spring-type jackets or windbreakers, are permitted during the school day with the Principal's approval;

Note: On special occasion days, such as School Spirit Day, the Principal is authorized to permit the wearing of hats.



8. Ski masks are not permitted to be worn in school. Any similar type of hats or hoods that hide the face are not permitted and will be confiscated;
9. No sweatbands, gloves, scarves or bandannas may be worn or visibly displayed in the school building.

Implementation of Code Violations (Grades 9 - 12)

The Building Principal or designee or Vice Principal or anyone else designated by the Principal will rule on all violations and take appropriate action which the pupil must follow at that time. However, if the infraction is not clearly specified in the dress code, the pupil has recourse to appeal to the dress review committee at a later date. The committee will forward its recommendations to the Principal or designee. The dress review committee will be made up of the dress code committee augmented by three additional pupils selected by the student body under the supervision of the Student Council and three additional teachers selected by the school curriculum coordinating committee.

Implementation of Code Violations (Grades 6 - 8)

The Building Principal or designee or Vice Principal or anyone else designated by the Principal will rule on all violations and take appropriate action which the pupil must follow at that time. However, if the infraction is not clearly specified in the dress code, the pupil has recourse to appeal to the dress review committee at a later date. The committee will forward its recommendations to the Principal or designee. The dress review committee will be made up of the dress code committee augmented by three additional pupils selected by the student body under the supervision of the Student Council and three additional teachers selected by the Principal or designee.

Review of Dress Code (Grades 6 - 12)

The Student Council will be charged with the responsibility of requesting a dress code revision. The dress code committee will consist of four pupils (two females and two males), selected by the student body under the supervision of the Student Council, two parent(s) or legal guardian(s) from the community and two teachers appointed by the Principal or designee. The school nurse will be available to the committee to advise on appropriate matters. A felt need for change will be called to the attention of the high schools and middle schools so that they may meet jointly to make a final decision. If, at any time, the school authorities feel that this dress code has adversely affected pupil behavior or pupil achievement, the dress code committee will reconvene to take appropriate action.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1; 18A:11-7; 18A:11-8; 18A:11-9

Adopted: 24 January 2011

