

2020 – 2021 La Porte Independent School District

Secondary Dress Code

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 6th-12th Grade Students

❖ Clothing Basics

- Clean, non-distracting, appropriate fit and in good repair
- All students must wear appropriate undergarments
- **The following are specifically prohibited.** Clothing, pictures, emblems, or writings on clothing, or jewelry that:
 1. Are lewd, offensive, vulgar or obscene
 2. Advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, weapons, speech or graphics reasonably likely to incite violence, satanic symbols, blood, or death
 3. Are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang, unauthorized club or organization
 4. That bares the midriff, allows undergarments to be exposed, or exposes skin that would otherwise be covered
 5. Bandanas are strictly prohibited

❖ 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.
- No chains (i.e. billfold chains and chains on pants)
- No sunglasses, bandanas, gloves or head/hand coverings indoors
- No hats, caps or hoods indoors.
- Pierced jewelry should not distract from the learning environment.
- **Tattoos and other drawings on the skin must be covered at all times.**

- No blankets may be brought to school for any reason.

❖ **Slacks/Jeans/Pants/Shorts:**

- Any color (designs included) that does not violate the clothing basics are allowed
- Jeans must be in good repair with no holes above the knee.
- Bike pants, leggings, tights, pajama pants, sleepwear or yoga pants are not permitted
- Pants/slacks and shorts must be cinched at the waist. No “sagging”
- Baggy pants that sag or do not sit on the waistline, hip hugger, or low-rise jeans/pants/skirts/shorts are not permitted
- Shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Inappropriate or distracting writing on the seat/bottom area of shorts or pants is prohibited
- Undergarments worn on the outside of the pants/jeans/slacks/shorts is prohibited

❖ **Dresses/Jumpers/Skirts/Skorts:**

- Any color (designs included) is allowed
- Must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Slits, flaps and other openings in skirts must meet the same criteria as for all clothing length. Wearing leggings under these garments does not put the student in compliance

❖ **Shirts:**

- Any color or pattern that does not violate clothing basics is allowed
- Collared shirts are NOT required
- Male students may not wear sleeveless tops/shirts without a sleeved garment underneath
- Students are required to wear garments with hemmed sleeves. Jackets, sweaters or similar coverings over sleeveless garments will not bring a student into compliance with the dress code
- **Low cut, sheer or revealing tops are not permitted.** Tank tops, backless apparel, midriffs, tops with straps less than 2”, sleeveless tops that are revealing (deep or low cut tops that reveal cleavage), or see-through (sheer) blouses are not acceptable

❖ **Shoes:**

- Any color is allowed.
- Shoes with closed toe and heel are recommended – sandals and flip-flops may pose a safety hazard
- Students are expected to wear shoes at all times
- House shoes are strictly prohibited or other shoes not designed for outdoor wear.

❖ **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.

- Hoodies and/or sweatshirts may not extend below the wrist in a normal standing position. Hoods may not be worn inside the building at any time.

❖ **Hair**

- Clean, neatly groomed, and non-distracting.

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.

Any form of dress or appearance determined by the Principal or Principal's designee to be disruptive to the learning environment will be prohibited.

- Dress code infractions will be managed on a case-by-case basis.

In the event that clothing replacement is not possible the consequence above will be altered at the discretion of the principal.

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