

## **SECTION VI. GENERAL POLICIES**

### **STANDARDIZED DRESS POLICY (Grades K-12)**

Each student has the responsibility to dress appropriately for the school environment. Wearing apparel, hair, and general appearance shall not disrupt the classroom atmosphere, shall not be unusually provocative, or shall not violate the health and safety rules of the school. The guidelines for dress and grooming are provided to assist parents and shall apply to all students. Student dress and grooming shall be neat, clean, and follow the general guidelines below:

1. Shirts/sweaters/undershirts: Solid purple, solid gold, solid navy blue, or solid white collared shirt only. Approved Hattiesburg Schools team jerseys, warm-ups, spirit t-shirts, or sweatshirts may be worn on specific days as designated by the principal
2. Sweatshirts/sweaters/vests: Solid purple, solid gold, solid navy blue, or solid white. May not be worn/carried around the waist, neck, shoulders, etc.
3. Pants/shorts/skirts: Solid color khaki (tan), black or solid navy. Slacks or Capri pants only. Blue Jeans may be worn (no rips or tears).
4. Hats/caps/head covers: No head covering on campus (caps, hoods, bandanas, hairnets, wave caps, and/or wrap)
5. Belts: No chains, badges, patches, spiked accessories, and large belt buckles. If a belt loop exists on clothing, a belt should be worn
6. Socks/shoes: Students must wear closed-toe shoes at all times
7. Middle School: Handbags/purses must not exceed 8½ inches x 11 inches (standard notebook paper)
8. **Backpacks (Grades 6-8): Mesh and/or clear plastic backpacks ONLY**
9. Students are prohibited from wearing additional “patches,” pins, tattoos, earrings, jewelry, or any other item that may be considered lewd, profane, obscene, vulgar, suggestive, distracting, or which may harass, threaten, intimidate, or demean other groups; or which display illegal merchandise or contraband; or any item which may distract from the educational process. Gold or silver grills may not be worn to school. Items of clothing which in any way represent street gangs or gang affiliation are prohibited.
10. Coats/Jackets: SEE Standard Rules

#### Standards Rules for All Clothing:

1. Size appropriate clothing is required
2. No zip-off, low riders, skorts, leggings, jeggings, tights, or joggers. All bottoms must come at least to the knees, but no shorter than mid-thigh. Visibility of undergarments is not allowed
3. No bare midriffs
4. Undergarments may not be exposed. Undershirts must be tucked in
5. Hats, headbands, wave caps, bandanas, hairnets, and combs in the hair are not permitted
6. Tears, holes, patches, slits in the seams, and ragged hems in clothing or shoes are not permitted
7. No tank tops, swimsuits, sweat pants, short shorts, beach attire, low neckline, low backline, spaghetti straps, or shoulder exposing garments are permitted
8. Pants with elastic ankle or cuff hem are not allowed

9. No gang-related, alcohol, tobacco, or drug-related writing or images on backpacks, shoes, or clothing
10. Shirts are to be tucked into pants, skirts, shorts, and skorts
11. Pierced ears for earrings are acceptable. Other visible body piercing is not allowed
12. Head coverings including but not limited to caps, hats, bandannas, “doo” rags, hair curlers, sunglasses, or any “gang” symbols are prohibited
13. Oversize clothing is prohibited. The waistband of shorts, slacks, and skirts shall be worn on the waist. If belts, suspenders, or straps are worn, they shall be worn in place and fastened. “Sagging” or “low-riding” is prohibited
14. Sunglasses or shades may not be worn.

The principal may designate certain days during the year as “Free Dress” days, and students will not have to wear uniforms on those days only. Students who fail to adhere to the dress code policy will face disciplinary consequences. If you have questions or concerns about the appropriateness of attire, please contact your child’s principal.

**Principal shall have the final decision about the appropriateness of the style, type, or fashion of student clothing and appearance.**

**Physical Education Dress Code/Dance Class Dress Code**

Students enrolled in dance classes must dress appropriately as directed by the instructor. Likewise, students enrolled in physical education classes must dress out as directed by their instructor.