

# DRESS CODE

The Montrose Area School District recognizes that a clear and balanced dress code promotes an academic environment, limits disruptions and enhances students' self-images while allowing for a reasonable level of comfort, freedom and self-expression. The following guidelines have been written to promote clarity but are not all-inclusive. Please keep in mind that **how** an item of clothing is worn is as significant as **what** is being worn. The administration reserves the right to determine what is considered safe and appropriate dress during the school day and at all school-sponsored events. Please refer to the MASD Policy Manual, policy number 221 for further information.

## Students may wear:

- Clothing that is clean, in good condition and appropriate for the activities engaged in during the school day as well as after-school activities;
- Clothing that fits appropriately, is not excessively baggy, is worn as intended by the manufacturer and is not made of material that is mesh, sheer or see-through;
- Clothing that is free of inappropriate or offensive language or innuendos, references to or images of illegal substances or activities, alcohol, tobacco, sex, violence, hate speech, gang-related or another distracting subject matter;
- Clothing, shoes, jewelry/piercings and accessories free of chains, spikes, sharp edges or other safety hazards.
- Pants which are free from holes above the longest fingertip length while standing and are not considered lounge or sleep wear;
- Athletic shorts and athletic pants that securely fasten at the waist, fit appropriately, are free from holes above the longest fingertip, not made of mesh or another sheer or see-through fabric;
- Shorts, skirts and dresses which reach to at least the longest fingertip length while standing;
- Any pants (tights, leggings, yoga pants, etc.) designed to be worn skin-tight if covered with a top that reaches to the longest finger-tip length on all sides while standing.
- Shirts, tops and dresses that do not expose cleavage, midriff, undergarments or an excessive amount of skin on the chest, back or under the arms, have finished sleeves and cover the top of the shoulders.
- Footwear with a hard sole which is safe and appropriate for each class and activity the student participates in (rubber/foam flip-flops, slides, stilettos, platforms and slippers are not allowed);
- Headwear as required for religious beliefs/purposes or appropriate hair accessories worn as intended.

## Students may NOT, during the school day (defined as first bell to last bell), wear:

- Coats, jackets, or other items designed as outerwear; blankets, gloves or arm sleeves;
- Headphones or ear buds (unless being used with permission);
- Hats, hoods, do-rags, bandannas or sunglasses.

**Disciplinary Actions:** Students violating the dress code will be expected to change and may be placed in SSS for failure to do so. One formal warning will be given **per semester** with a letter home to inform parents. The student will be given a copy of the Dress Code, asked to read it and will be responsible for signing a statement of understanding. Detention will be assigned for a second violation. Detention or SSS may be assigned for additional violations.

Students attending or participating in after-school practices or activities, sporting events, school functions, field trips, etc. are expected to dress appropriately and tastefully given the situation and conditions. Students, please keep in mind that you are representing your school and likely serving as role models for younger students. You only have one opportunity to make a favorable first impression. Questionable items should not be worn without receiving permission from the administration first.