



Wharton

Independent School District

2023 – 2024 Dress and Grooming Guidelines

DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Wharton ISD has a dress and grooming code that is established to: teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruptions, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for oneself and others. Students should be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean, neat, that will not be a safety hazard to themselves or others, and that promotes a positive self.image and impression for both the student and those around him or her. Given that school is the student's environment where he/she will learn social skills and the proper way to interact with peers and persons of authority, students are expected to dress in a way appropriate to that environment.

The staff of the school is authorized to enforce the district's dress and grooming guidelines. Final determination of acceptable dress and grooming standards rests with the **principal or his/her designee and cannot be appealed.**

GENERAL

Any clothing, jewelry, accessories or tattoos with decorations, patches, lettering advertisements, etc. considered obscene or offensive are not allowed. This includes clothing, jewelry or accessories having criminal street gang identifiers, accessories that may be used as weapons, and accessories having drug, sex, tobacco, or alcoholic beverage references or designs.

SHIRTS

- Shirts must be clean and neat.
- Shirts/tops must touch the waist of pants/skirts at all times. (i.e., when in movement, when arms are extended or raised, and when in seated position, etc.)
- The length of an untucked shirt must not be longer than the tip of the longest finger with the student's hand fully extended down the side of the student's leg.
- Sleeveless, see-through, strapless tops, and low-cut blouses/tops/sweaters are not allowed.

PANTS

- Pajama bottoms, sleepwear, or loungewear are not allowed.
- Clothing should be appropriately sized. Baggy clothing is not allowed.
- Pants should be worn at the waist at all times. **NO SAGGING AT ANY TIME.** Pants that do not fit (are more than one size too big for the waist) should not be worn unless the student has a belt that keeps the pants in dress code.
- No jeans with holes of any type allowed.
- Athletic wear, which may include yoga pants, stretch leggings and fitness tights, are permissible as long as they do not reveal undergarments, do not have sections of see-through material, or are worn with a shirt that covers the posterior (*approximately 6 inches below buttocks*), or are not disruptive to the school environment.
- Wind pants and sweatpants are allowed.

SHORTS/DRESSES/SKIRTS

- The length of the garment must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Loose fitting athletic (basketball) shorts are allowed.
- Dresses may not be halter type, sleeveless or strapless. Low cut fronts/back and/or backless dresses are not allowed.

ACCESSORIES

- Visible piercings allowed **ONLY** in the ears. Nose rings are **NOT** allowed.
- For safety reasons, it is recommended that students not wear excessively large earrings or jewelry.

HAIR

- Hair should be kept neat and clean.
- Facial hair should be neat, clean, closely trimmed and not be a distraction to the learning environment.

FOOTWEAR

- Students may not wear house shoes or shoes with cleats.
- Students are allowed to wear Croc-like/style shoes and slides. However, closed-toe shoes will be required for student safety. (For example in science labs, woodshops, welding, etc.)
- **For safety reasons, students in Grades PK-5 must wear shoes with a back.**

RESTRICTIONS

- Caps, hats and any form of knit cap must be removed before entering the building.
- No hats, caps, doo-rags, wave caps, bandanas or hoods worn indoors, except on campus designated days or during designated times permitted by the campus.
- Jackets with hoods may be worn; however, hoods should be removed upon entering the building.
- Sunglasses are not allowed in the building except on campus-designated days or during designated times permitted by the campus.
- No clothing that has been ripped, torn, or cut above the knee.

BACKPACKS/PURSES

- Clear backpacks **ONLY** (wheels are **NOT** allowed).
- Purses may be no larger than 12 inches x 12 inches x 6 inches; no large beach or tote bags are allowed to be used as a purse.

IDENTIFICATION BADGES

- As a way to increase security and efficiency on secondary campuses, Wharton ISD requires all students, grades 6-12, to wear Wharton ISD-issued identification (ID) at all times. The student ID provides greater efficiency for students when interacting with various district services including the library, cafeteria, and transportation.
- All secondary students are provided their first ID card at no expense. But should the ID be lost, stolen, or damaged, a replacement must be promptly purchased for \$5 from their designated school office.