

Williamson County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Dress Code	Descriptor Code: 6.310	Issued Date: 05/15/23
		Rescinds: 6.310	Issued: 11/18/19

Williamson County Schools student dress code supports equitable educational access for all students. A student's appearance, including dress, must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching and learning climate, or compromise standards of health and safety.

This policy applies to all individual schools and programs. The Board prohibits schools from enacting more restrictive or less restrictive dress codes.

Minimum Safe Attire: Any apparel or dress that is potentially disruptive to the learning environment or educational process is not permitted. Any apparel or dress that is dangerous to the health or safety of students or the lawful, peaceful operation of the school is not permitted.

- Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants, skirt, or the equivalent (ex. dresses, leggings, yoga pants, shorts, sweatpants, jumpsuits, etc.).
- Clothing must be worn in a way such that the abdomen, genitals, buttocks, breast, nipples, and back are fully covered with opaque fabric. Clothing must cover the front, back, and sides under the arms. Tops must include at minimum a strap over each shoulder.
- Pants, skirts, or the equivalent must be held at the waist.
- Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. All students must ensure that their clothes fully cover their abdomen, genitals, buttocks, breasts/chest/nipples, and back with opaque (non-see through) fabric.
- Building administration will determine if hats and hoods may be worn at their respective schools. Hats, if allowed, and other headwear must allow the face to be visible to staff and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. Hooded shirts or tops, if allowed to be worn on the head, must allow the face and ears to be visible from all angles to school staff.
- Shoes must be worn to school and should be appropriate for class activities (i.e., recess, CTE and science labs, PE, etc.)
- Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities, including physical education, science labs, shop and other activities where unique hazards exist. Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.

Attire advocating violence, criminal activity, use of alcohol or drugs, pornography, or hate speech are prohibited. Specifically,

- Clothing shall not depict, advertise, or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, vapes, marijuana, or any other controlled substance prohibited under federal or state law.
- Clothing shall not depict profanity, pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.

3. Clothing shall not use or depict hate speech that targets groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
4. Clothing and accessories must not pose a threat to the health or safety of any other student or staff.
5. Enforcement must accommodate clothing worn by students as an expression of sincerely held religious beliefs (head scarves, for example) and worn by students with disabilities (protective helmets, for example).
6. Any type of clothing, apparel, or accessory, including that which denotes such students' membership in or affiliation with any gang associated with criminal activities is not permitted (TCA 49-6-4215).

Extracurricular Activities

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in or attend the activity.

Student uniforms related to student extracurricular activities (band, cheerleading, dance, sports team, etc.) must be in compliance with this policy during the academic day.

Dress Code Enforcement

1. School staff shall enforce the dress code consistently and in a manner that does not discriminate against any group based on race, sex, gender, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.
2. Enforcement of the dress code shall be gender neutral.
3. Students who are out of dress code will be removed from class until the violation can be resolved, with the goal of returning to class as quickly as possible. Resolution of the violation can occur in three ways —
 - a. Students return to code with alternative clothing they already have at school.
 - b. Students return to code with provided, temporary school clothing, if available.
 - c. Students return to code after calling parents/guardians to bring alternative clothing to school.
4. These dress code guidelines shall apply to regular school days and summer school days.
5. Students with repeated violations of school dress code will receive progressive discipline.
6. The principal or his/her designee shall be the final judge as to compliance.