

Dress Code 2026-2027

Howard High School



At Howard High School we:

HONOR THE
PORTRAY A POSITIVE ATTITUDE
ACEPT RESPONSIBILITY
CHOOOSE TO BE RESPECTFUL
KEEP LEARNING FIRST

Dress Code Philosophy - How to Honor the PACK

We want to allow our students to be individuals and to express themselves through their choices of clothing. However, not all clothing choices are appropriate for school and the clothing students wear to school should meet our dress code restrictions and live up to these four principles:

1. **Portray a Positive Attitude** - Your clothing should show that you respect yourself.
2. **Accept Responsibility** – Your clothing should show that you are responsible for your for your actions.
3. **Choose to be Respectful** - Your clothing should demonstrate that you respect yourself, others and our learning environment.
4. **Keep Learning First** - Your clothing should convey the message that you are attending school for the purpose of learning.

Specific items that require special emphasis:

- **Cell Phones** are NOT allowed during the school day (7:00 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.)
- **Clear or Mesh backpack/bookbags ONLY**
- **Slides including the fur and colored rubber slides, bedroom slippers, and shower shoes** are not school attire. They will not be allowed.
- **Earbuds, headphones, and blue tooth** devices are not allowed to be used or worn inside the school at any time. This includes before and after school.
- **Leggings/Biking Shorts/Jeggings with or without pockets, joggers** with or without pockets, and **Yoga pants** with or without pockets are not school attire. They will not be allowed to be worn to school.
- **Pants with holes** – any size and any location- that expose the skin will not be allowed.
- **Shorts, skirts, and dresses** must not be shorter than **2 inches above the knee**. If you aren't sure, then please do not wear them to school.
- **Blankets and Pajamas** are NOT allowed.

General Guidelines for ALL attire

- All clothing must be appropriately sized, and worn with the appropriate undergarments, which may not be seen through the garment.
- All shirts must have sleeves.
- Pants/shorts must not have holes or fraying that exposes the skin.

- All clothing must cover the body without openings, slits, or holes that expose skin or undergarments, cleavage, the mid-section, bare back, or other parts of the torso.
- Clothing that is too short or too tight is not permitted.

NON-PERMITTED CLOTHING ITEMS: This is not intended as a comprehensive list of non-permitted clothing items. The School District may prohibit additional clothing items throughout the school year. Notice regarding additional prohibited clothing items will be posted in the office of each school.

The following items are **NOT PERMITTED:**

- Leggings/Jeggings with or without pockets, Joggers with or without pockets and Yoga pants with or without pockets worn as pants
- Slides including fur slides, shower shoes, and any kind of bedroom shoe or slipper
- No pajamas
- Sleeveless shirts
- Any shirt or shirt/pants combination that shows bare midriff or skin around the waist
- Shorts or skirts/dresses that are shorter than two inches above the knee
- Earbuds, Headphones, and Bluetooth devices may not be used or worn around the neck anywhere in the building at any time - **even before or after school**
- Bib overalls/jumpsuits
- Sunglasses
- Non-jewelry chains (ex: dog-collar type chains, belt-chains)
- Any clothing, attire or personal belongings, associated with gang activity or behavior. Clothing, attire or personal belongings that are associated with a gang may be established by evidence of a common name or common identifying signs, symbols, insignias, tattoos, graffiti or other distinguishing characteristics.
- Any article of clothing which advertises alcohol, drugs, sex or which contains inflammatory, vulgar, lewd or suggestive writing, pictures, or emblems, or promotes aggression or violence. Any clothing, which advertises or advocates the use of a product, is prohibited on school premises. Any clothing which disrupts the learning process is prohibited on school premises.
- Hats, caps, hoods, scarves, bandannas, “do-rags,” combs, picks, roach clips and curlers are not permitted. Possession of metal picks is prohibited on school premises.
- Any accessory, object or ornament that is distracting or capable of being used as a weapon or in the use of drugs or alcohol is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to, artificial nails, jewelry, etc. **Schools reserve the right to ban any clothing items/accessories that may present a danger or distraction to the school community as needed.**
- Removable, Ornamental Tooth Caps/Grills
- Big shirts, jerseys or other oversized shirts. *NOTE: (School athletes may wear school jerseys and uniforms on occasions as addressed in school handbook). **Coaches have a specified dress code for athletes on game days.**
- All other items which, in the judgment of the principal (designee), disrupt or distract from the teaching and learning process, such as dice, playing cards, laser pointers, games, toys or electronic devices.

STUDENT DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

1st Offense - Written Warning/Teacher contacts parent/May be removed from the learning environment if clothing cannot be corrected to meet dress code.

2nd Offense - Teacher/Student Conference/Teacher contacts parent/ May be removed from the learning environment if clothing cannot be corrected to meet dress code.

3rd Offense - Teacher/Student Conference/Teacher contacts parent/May be removed from the learning environment if clothing cannot be corrected to meet dress code. Teacher completes a referral to the counselor.

4th Offense - Teacher contacts parent and completes office referral; Student may receive up to 2 days ISS.

5th Offense & Subsequent - Teacher contacts parents and completes an office referral; if the dress code violation issue becomes a disruption or repetitious problem, subsequent consequences may escalate to in-school suspension of 3-5 days per occurrence. Repetitive dress code violations become a defiance issue and may receive punishments beyond ISS including: required parent meetings, OSS, and referrals to the alternative school.