

R 5511 DRESS CODE

The faculty, administration, and Board of Education of Washington Township Schools agree that certain standards of appearance are necessary for the well-being of all students. We believe that school attire is primarily the responsibility of the student and their parents/guardians. At the same time we believe that, within the framework provided by the First Amendment and New Jersey school law, the right of free speech and expression enjoyed by students as defined by our judicial system must be respected. We also support our teachers' and faculty's need to focus on teaching/instruction without the additional, uncomfortable burden of subjective dress code enforcement. At the same time, we entrust the clear and consistent enforcement of this policy to all building administrators.

1. Footwear must be worn at all times and should be appropriate and safe for each classroom activity. Sneakers are the only approved footwear for physical education classes. All footwear must be secured at the front and back of the foot. High school students are permitted to wear flip flops.
2. Clothing shall be sufficient to conceal midriffs, all undergarments (excluding straps) and private parts at all times. Clothing must be worn as intended. That is, the waistband of pants/shorts should be fastened at the waist and undergarments are not to be worn as outer garments. Fabric covering all private parts must not be see through. All shirts must have either sleeves or straps. Hats, hoods and bandanas are not to be worn in the building.

Clothing must be suitable and adhere to all dress code requirements for all scheduled school day activities including physical education, science labs, wood shop, and other activities where unique hazards or needs exist.

Clothing, accessories, or jewelry that displays obscene, profane, vulgar or lewd words, pictures, messages, designs or double-meaning slogans, gang association or criminal activity are prohibited.

- a. Understanding that middle school environments can benefit from distinct consideration, spaghetti strap tops and flip flops are not to be worn at the middle school level.
3. Any clothing, accessory or jewelry which depicts bias symbols, hate messages or is intended to harass, threaten, intimidate or demean individuals or groups of individuals because of sex, color, race, religion, disability, national origin or sexual orientation are prohibited.
4. Non-prescription sunglasses, glazed and tinted glasses, except as prescribed by the student's doctor, are not to be worn indoors.



REGULATION

5. Chains, cables or other accoutrements, which could be used as weapons, are prohibited.
6. Body adornments, including but not limited to, body piercing jewelry which may jeopardize the safety and well-being of the student or others are prohibited during physical education classes.

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