



Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School Dress Code 2017-2018

The PLDMS dress code is consistent with the dress code guidelines listed in the *Student Code of Conduct, Grade 6-12*. Individual schools have the authority to establish additional requirements. We believe our dress code provides guidance to help students make reasonable choices, addresses issues of safety, and supports and enhances a positive environment where learning is a priority.

Students must be in compliance with dress code upon entering school grounds, during school, during after-school events. *The responsibility for the personal appearance of the student rests with the parent and/or guardian*. Repeated, purposeful violations of the PLDMS dress code will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines established in the *Student Code of Conduct, Grade 6-12*.

For the 2017-2018 school year, the following information establishes the *minimum* acceptable standards for student dress to be interpreted and enforced by the administration and staff at Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School. The Dress Code for 2017-2018 may be adjusted if needed.

TOPS

COLLAR SHIRT – Polo Style or Buttoned

- Collar must be visible throughout the school day.
- Buttoned shirts must be buttoned and not exposing undershirts.
- Back, chest and stomach areas must be fully covered.

PLDMS SPIRIT SHIRT

- Any top with the PLDMS logo and/or representing participation in a school-wide group or activity may be worn in place of a collared shirt.

TOPS NOT PERMITTED

- Sheer tops, sleeveless shirts, t-shirts.
- Too tight, ripped, torn, inappropriate in cut or style.

BOTTOMS

PANTS, SHORTS, CAPRIS, SKORTS, SKIRTS

- Uniform Style or Jeans
- Must be worn at the natural waistline and properly fastened.
- Must be free of rips or tears exposing skin or undergarments.
- ALL SHORTS, CAPRIS, SKORTS, SKIRTS, at minimum, must touch the top and back of the knee, and not form fitting.

BOTTOMS NOT PERMITTED

- Anything above the knee, form fitting, or slits. Sweatpants, drawstring, jogger or athletic pants/shorts, leggings/jeggings, yoga or stretch pants. Any bottoms that expose undergarments or bottoms ripped or torn exposing skin or undergarments.

DRESSES

- Dresses, at minimum, must touch the top and back of the knee
- Dresses must have a collar with sleeves, no slits or side lifts.
- Dresses must fit modest, not tight form fitting.

***DRESSES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS, such as Picture Day, Awards Ceremonies, Spirit Days, etc WILL INCLUDE A SPECIAL DRESS CODE, announced via that afternoon announcements.

COLD WEATHER WEAR

JACKETS, CARDIGANS, OR SWEATSHIRTS

- Must have zipper, buttons, or be open.
- Collar/Spirit shirt must always be visible. Jackets remain unzipped during school.
- Sweatshirts and sweaters may be worn over appropriate collared shirt as long as the collar remains visible.

COLD WEAR NOT PERMITTED

- Pull-over hoodies or cold weather wear not exposing a collar or spirit shirt.

SHOES

- CLOSED TOE SHOES (Must be worn at all times)

SHOES NOT PERMITTED

- Backless shoes, flip-flops, bedroom slippers, sandals, high heels, or any other footwear considered unsafe are NOT appropriate for school.

HEADWEAR / HAIR

NATURAL HAIRSTYLES

- Hair is to be neat and well-groomed.

HEADWARE / HAIR NOT PERMITTED

- Hairstyles or hair colors that are distracting, an unnatural color. The wearing of hats, hoods, caps, bandannas, grooming combs, headgear, or sunglasses, except in conjunction with authorized athletic practices or activities, is prohibited.

*** There may be certain exceptions for medical conditions (with a doctor's note) or when physical education classes are held outside.

MISCELLANEOUS NOT PERMITTED

- Articles of clothing, jewelry, or adornments that could likely cause injury—such as chains, bracelets, rings, chokers with or without spikes, or studs.
- Apparel, emblems, insignias, badges, or symbols that promote the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence or any other illegal activity.
- Clothing with slogans or advertising which, by its controversial or obscene nature, disrupts the educational setting.
- Apparel or symbols which may be gang-related may not be displayed on a student, or on any item belonging to a student, at any time while on school property. Such symbols may be designated by administration, the school's Resource Officer or a law enforcement authority.
- Adornments, either attached or pierced to exposed body parts other than the ears.
- Drawing on one's self or other with ink, Sharpie marker, etc.

CONSEQUENCES for DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS MAY INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Warning issued on the Eagle Card.
2. Parent request to bring in appropriate clothes.
3. Parent Conference
4. Loss of Privilege (extracurricular activities, Pep Rallies, Dances, Athletics, Clubs, or other non-academic school functions)
5. Dress Code Contract - transitions the student from Dress Code infractions to Insubordination, carrying consequences up to OSS.