

2021- 2022 Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School Dress Code Policy

REVIEW BEFORE PURCHASING SCHOOL CLOTHES FOR YOUR CHILD

The purpose of the Dress Code is to encourage students to focus on the learning process without the distractions of unsuitable dress and grooming.

Students shall maintain a clean, orderly appearance at all times. The responsibility for the personal appearance of the student rests with the parent/guardian and the student. Personal appearance shall not disrupt the educational process. A student who is dressed appropriately is demonstrating a respect for self and others, as well as contributing to a safe and orderly learning environment.

Tops - Polo-style shirts only – solid or striped, polo collared shirt with sleeves.

- No large logos or writing permitted (unless school designed shirt). Logos, brand names or brand insignias on polo shirts may be no larger than a half dollar.
- Tops must fit loosely enough that all buttons can be closed without strain. Shirt backs, chest, and stomach areas must be long enough to provide full coverage.
- Shirts worn underneath polo shirts must be a solid color.
- No T-Shirts are allowed over polos.
- Button down shirts are permitted, but cannot be worn as jackets
- Any Dunbar Middle T-Shirt purchased or provided may be worn instead of a polo-style shirt **on Fridays only**.

Bottoms - Pants – must be worn at the natural waist, have belt loops and be properly fastened, buttoned and zipped.

- Pants may not be secured with rubber bands or tucked into socks
- Jeans and Capris – Modest fit, **no tears, rips or ripped designs**. Jeans and Capris must be worn securely at the natural waist. No cutoff jeans permitted. No sweatpants or pants made from sweat pant or dry fit material.
- Skirts, Shorts, Skorts – Modest fit, must touch the front and back of the knee and maintain that length while walking. No slits.
- Pants may not be excessively tight (**no leggings, tights, yoga style pants**).
- Leggings under skirts are allowed, but skirts, shorts, and skorts must still meet length requirements.
- No cut-off shorts permitted. No gym shorts allowed except during Physical Education.

Dresses - Must have collars, sleeves and must touch the front and back of the knee and maintain that length while walking.

- No slits.
- Leggings under dresses are allowed, but dresses must still meet length requirements.
- Cannot be form fitting.

Shoes/Footwear - Shoes (appropriate footwear) shall be worn at all times and be closed toed.

- All footwear must have backs/straps. Bedroom slippers, flip-flops, Crocs, and sport sandals are not permitted.

Sweaters or Jackets - NO HOODIES or PULLOVER SWEATSHIRTS are allowed at any time.

- All outerwear must be a solid color, or an overall print or pattern that is school appropriate.
- Script, designs, or large graphic words or prints are not permitted.
- Logos, brand names, or brand insignias may be no larger than a half dollar.
- Jackets/sweaters must zip or button the entire length of the front.
- Jackets/sweaters must be unzipped/unbuttoned at all times during the school day.
- The sweater or jacket must be worn with a shirt that meets dress code requirements and cannot be tied around the waist.
- Button up shirts cannot be worn as a jacket.

School Appropriate Dress Down Days - Dress down days are determined by administration during the school year.

School appropriate does not include...

- Revealing shirts or cropped tops
- Ripped jeans exposing skin or undergarments
- Short shorts, dresses, or skirts
- Sandals or slides of any kind

Miscellaneous Not Permitted

- Articles of clothing, jewelry, or adornments that could likely cause injury-such as large earrings or hoops, chains, bracelets, rings, studs, chokers, and/or headphones.
- Adornments, either attached or pierced to exposed body parts other than the ears.
- 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.
- Tattoos or drawing on one's self or others with ink, Sharpie marker, etc.
- Hairstyles or hair colors that are distracting and/or an unnatural color.
- Hats, hoods, caps, bandannas, grooming combs, headgear, or sunglasses, except in conjunction with authorized athletic practices or activities, is prohibited.

