

## STUDENT DRESS CODE

### **Dress and Grooming**

The dress and grooming standards of the Princeton Independent School District are meant to promote a positive, professional learning environment where the focus is on instruction and not on clothing. Clothing, hairstyles, and accessories should not be:

- Disruptive
- Immodest, or
- Compromise student safety

The Board of Education has determined that reasonable regulation of school attire and personal adornment is within its authority and consistent with its responsibility to provide an appropriate environment for learning. The Board of Education acknowledges that a correlation exists between good grooming and personal attire and student achievement. A similar relationship exists between student dress and acceptable standards of conduct.

### **General Rules:**

- All clothing shall be worn as designed/manufactured
  - Permitted garments shall be clean, in good repair, and shall have no holes, slashes or rips above the knee.
  - Excessively large or baggy clothes are prohibited. Garments must be of a length and fit that are suitable to the build and stature of the student. “Sagging pants” are not allowed.
  - Undergarments shall not be visible.
  - The following decorations and/or designs (including tattoos, and/or brands either temporary or permanent\*) imprinted upon or attached to the body or clothing or accessories are prohibited:
    - Symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms that convey crude, vulgar, profane, violent, death, dismemberment, disfiguration, gang-related, sexually explicit or suggestive messages, guns, weapons or other offensive items.
    - Symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms advertising tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia.
    - Symbols, mottoes, words or acronyms identifying a student as a member of a secret or overtly antisocial group or gang or that identifies a student as a member of an organization that professes violence or hatred toward one’s fellow man.
- \* Visible and permanent tattoos/brands incompatible with the standards set forth herein shall be covered to prohibit their display.

- Hairstyles or unnatural hair colors that, in the judgment of the school principal, cause a disruption of the educational environment are not allowed.
- Upper Garments
  - Boys' shirts must have sleeves.
  - Girls' shirts must cover the entire shoulder.
  - The cut of sleeveless garments must not expose undergarments or be otherwise immodest.
  - Bare midriffs are prohibited. If a student raises their arms to shoulder height and the midriff or undergarment shows, the shirt is not long enough.
  - Immodestly low-cut necklines, off the shoulder, or bare backs are prohibited.
  - Shirts shall not be longer than the fingertips of the wearer with the arm fully extended.
- Lower Garments
  - Pants shall not extend below the heel of the shoe in length.
  - Tights or leggings worn as outerwear, spandex, bike shorts, stretch lycra, nylon tights, leotards sleep wear (including pajamas), etc. are not permitted.
  - Shorts, dresses and skirts must be of modest length defined as knee length for Secondary students (Intermediate and up) and fingertip length for Elementary students.
- Footwear
  - Students shall wear appropriate footwear for protection and hygienic reasons while on school grounds, participating in school activities, or on school transportation. Footwear must be worn at all times and securely fastened. House slippers and shower shoes are examples of unacceptable footwear.
  - Flip flops cannot be worn at elementary (due to safety concerns).
- Accessories
  - Visible pierced jewelry shall be limited to the ear. (Clear spacers will be allowed.)
  - Dog collars, wallet chains, large or metal hair picks, chains that connect one part of the body to another, or other jewelry/accessories that pose a safety concern for the student or others are prohibited.
  - Goatees, beards, mustaches will be permitted if clean and well groomed.
  - Facial make-up is not allowed for boys.
  - Scarves, curlers, bandanas, sweatbands, hairnets, or other similar head coverings or adornments shall not be worn to class or within the school building.
  - Caps, hats, or other similar head coverings shall not be worn to class or within school buildings unless prescribed by a physician, previously approved by the school's administration for religious reasons, or approved by the school's administration for a special school activity.
  - Hoods on sweatshirts can not be worn during school hours.

The District also prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal’s judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption or interference with normal operations.

Students in violation of the student dress and grooming code will be expected to change to appropriate attire (their own or garments provided by the school) when violations are brought to their attention. Students will not be allowed to leave campus for the purpose of changing clothes.

Students are expected to maintain a reasonable standard of modesty at any school-related event or activity; school officials have the authority to ask them to leave if they are inappropriately dressed.

Note: The sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity may impose higher standards.

**Consequences for violation of the dress and grooming code:**

**Grades Pre-K thru 4:**

Students in violation of the student dress and grooming code will be required to change into appropriate attire (their own or garments provided by the school) and parents will be notified.

**Grades 5 thru 12:**

Students in violation of the student dress and grooming code will be required to change into appropriate attire (their own or garments provided by the school) and parents will be notified. Students will not be allowed to leave campus for the purpose of changing clothes. In addition to changing clothes students will receive consequences *not to exceed* the following:

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| 1 <sup>st</sup> offense | - | Warning   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense | - | 1 – 3 Hours of Detention                                    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> offense | - | 1 – 3 Hours of Detention                                    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> offense | - | 1 – 3 Days of In-School Suspension (ISS)                    |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> offense | - | 1 – 3 Days of In-School Suspension (ISS)                    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> offense | - | 3 – 5 Days of In-School Suspension (ISS)                    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> offense | - | Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement |