

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Rutherford Board of Education believes that the clothes students wear ought to be appropriate within reasonable limits and ought not to be in any significant way distracting from educational activities.

Students are expected to attend classes in clothing that is neat and clean. The school authorities have no intention of dictating the specific types of hair styles and grooming to be worn by the students. However, certain commonsense rules should govern the manner in which students are groomed for class, for school social affairs, and for off-campus school activities.

The following types of clothing will be deemed inappropriate by the Principal or his/her designee:

- 1) underwear as outer clothing;
- 2) clothing that exposes midriff;
- 3) dresses, skirts or shorts that are shorter than fingertip length;
Spandex shorts or biker shorts are not acceptable except in gym class.
- 4) midriffs, halters, transparent blouses or shirts;
- 5) fishnet, perforated low cut tops; tops with no backs or low sides that reveal undergarment;
- 6) clothing that has any symbol that holds the American Flag up to ridicule;
- 7) torn or ripped clothing;
- 8) footwear that is considered unsafe or dangerous;
- 9) any apparel or signs, patches or symbols that are vulgar, lewd, obscene or plainly offensive or which are likely to disrupt or materially interfere with school activities or discipline;
- 10) any apparel, signs, patches or symbols which can reasonably be viewed to bear the Board's imprimatur and which contain a message that is ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased, prejudiced, vulgar, profane, or unsuitable for immature audiences.
- 11) any apparel that displays symbols or advertisements of illegal substances, alcohol, or tobacco;
- 12) hats or other headwear unless for medical or religious reasons.

Implementation of Policy:

- 1) When a pupil is not in compliance with the Student Dress Code, the teacher or other staff member shall send the pupil to the Principal or his/her designee with a written report.
- 2) The Principal or his/her designee, after discussion with the pupil, shall contact the parent. The parent shall be requested to bring a change of clothing to school to enable the pupil to return to class.
- 3) If the parent is unable to bring a change of clothing, the pupil shall be sent to another area where he or she will be given the assignments for the day.
- 4) Repeated offenses shall be cause for suspension and/or any other disciplinary action deemed necessary by the Principal or his/her designee.

Adopted: November 9, 1987
Revised: October 10, 1994
Revised: July 13, 1998
Revised: August 5, 2002