

MacArthur High School

DRESS CODE

PHILOSOPHY AND GENERAL STATEMENT TO PARENTS

It is our professional belief that school performance and future success are enhanced by appropriate dress and grooming. Parents/guardians are strongly urged to work closely with the school to insure their child's adherence to high standards of dress and grooming expected in the North East Independent School District. Parents are strongly urged to enforce moderate hairstyles and high standards of dress for their students. Parents will be serving the welfare of our students and helping us as educators by emphasizing standards of neatness, cleanliness, safety, and decency in dress and grooming

SPECIFIC RULES:

The following specific rules are to be followed by all students in the North East Independent School District:

1. Halter tops, exposed midribs, strapless and/or low cut tops, exposed backs, spaghetti straps, see-through clothing, tank shirts are prohibited.
2. Clothing with inappropriate advertising or statements that are offensive or inflammatory (alcoholic beverage, sex tobacco, drugs, gang, satanic, promoting violence, etc.) are prohibited.
3. Appropriate footwear is required. Footwear that has toes *and/or soles* reinforced with steel, hard plastic or similar materials is prohibited.
4. Shorts will be permitted provided that the shorts are neatly hemmed and conservative and modest in appearance. **The principal shall determine the appropriate length of shorts. However, the shorts must not be higher than mid-thigh.** Specifically prohibited are cutoffs, frayed-hem shorts, bicycle shorts, gym shorts, form fitting and skin-tight shorts or pants of lycra, spandex, or other similar materials.
5. Pants shall be worn securely at the waist. Excessively worn and frayed jeans or other pants are prohibited.
6. Dresses, skirts, culottes, and split-skirts will be permitted provided that they are neatly hemmed, conservative, and modest in appearance. These articles of clothing will not be shorter than mid-thigh in length. **Excessively high slits in skirts will not be permitted.**
7. Shirts and blouses will be tucked-in at all times. **Exceptions to this rule will be determined by the principal or designee.**
8. Body piercing ornaments and other simulated ornaments will be worn in the ear only.
9. **Displaying tattoos and similar body painting(s) that promote violence, reflect gang activity, and that are considered to be offensive and inflammatory are prohibited.**
10. **Hats, caps, or other head apparel are prohibited.**

11. Dress Code:

Additional information for middle and high school student: It is our professional belief that school performance and future success are enhanced by appropriate dress and grooming, including standard attire such as uniforms. (1) Hair must be neat and clean. Unconventional hairstyles (multi-colored, spiked, Mohawk, etc.) that are considered to be distracting and/or disruptive to the educational environment are prohibited. (6) Pants shall be worn securely at the waist. Excessively worn, torn, and frayed pants are prohibited. (13) Any other wearing apparel or attire that is considered to be distracting and/or disruptive to the educational environment is prohibited.

A review of dress and grooming policies will be made periodically and changes will be made as needed.

While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress and grooming, the final determination will be in the judgment of the building principal. The student who does not comply with this code will be removed from the regular school setting until the student complies with this code. In addition, the dress code rules and regulations will be more restrictive in an alternative educational program.