



## Cumberland School Department Policy Manual

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

J

STUDENT DRESS CODE

J-20

The Cumberland School Department expects that all students will dress in a way that is deemed appropriate and acceptable to a school environment. Generally, the primary responsibility for a student's dress and grooming standards are determined by the student and their parents and/or guardians. However, the school district is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student.

All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming. Body Shaming is defined as inappropriate negative statements and attitudes toward another person's weight or size.

The expectations of this dress code are as follows:

1. Dress and grooming will be clean, neat and in keeping with health, sanitary and safety requirements.
2. Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
3. This policy is gender neutral.
4. Ensure that all students are treated equitably.
5. Students in violation of the dress code will be referred to the building administrator/designee and administration shall render decisions in individual cases. The administration shall be the judge of appropriate and acceptable dress. The interpretation of these rules shall be in the sole discretion of the school administration.
6. Any student in violation of the dress code shall be required to immediately make the necessary adjustments to comply with the code. Progressive disciplinary action may be applied when warranted.
7. Nothing shall be worn that is capable of inflicting damage to the wearer, another person, or school property.

What is appropriate:

- Opaque apparel that covers the torso, hips, back, and sides under the arms
- All clothing must completely cover the buttocks at all times
- Ripped pants as long as underwear and buttocks are not exposed
- Tops with straps
- Visible waistbands and straps on undergarments worn under other clothing



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Special Note: Some courses may require certain attire as part of the curriculum. Some examples include physical education, professionalism, public speaking and job readiness. Some courses may require certain safety clothing or accessories as well. The course instructor will determine what is required.

What is not appropriate:

- Plunging necklines
- Sagging or low cut pants worn below the waist
- Caps, hats, hoods, bandannas and other head attire. In certain circumstances a head scarf may be worn at the administrator's discretion.
- Apparel or accessories that advocate drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, gang symbols or discrimination
- Wallet chains
- Sunglasses
- Plastic sandals, foam flip flops
- Swimsuits (except for Swim class or athletic practice)

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