

## West Bonner County School District

### STUDENTS

3260

#### Student Dress

One of the fundamental purposes of school is to provide the foundation for the creation and development of a proper attitude toward education. In order to further this purpose, it is essential to create and maintain an effective teaching and learning environment. Student attire impacts the educational environment. It can either promote a more effective educational environment, or it can disrupt the educational climate and process. Student attire that is acceptable for some social settings may not be acceptable for the educational environment of school.

Students are reminded that their appearance (clothing and grooming) significantly affects the way others respond to them. Matters of dress remain the primary responsibility of students, in consultation with their parents or legal guardians. Nevertheless, since it is the duty of the Board of Trustees to provide an educational atmosphere conducive to learning, minimizing disruptions or distractions, and to protect the health, safety, and morals of students all students will adhere to following certain minimum standards of dress when the student is on any school premises or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location.

Students are not to wear or carry items of apparel (clothing, accessories, cosmetics, tattoos, jewelry—including body piercing) which depict or allude to, by picture, symbol or word, drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, gangs, violence, sexually explicit, lewd, indecent or offensive material, or illegal acts. The wearing, using, or displaying of any gang clothing or attire (based upon the principal/designee's reasonable belief that gangs may be present in a school) jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, codes or other things which evidence membership or affiliation in any gang is prohibited on any school premises or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location.

With the exception of those worn for religious purposes, head coverings/hats are not permitted anywhere in the building. The building principal or designee can make an exception. Dress-up days may influence what hats or head coverings are worn at the discretion of the principal or designee

Unless the principal or designee indicates otherwise, students will wear footwear at all times.

The Board of Trustees urges parents and students to exercise sound judgment, based upon the standard of appropriateness for the school setting. For example, clothing exposing bare midriffs, shorts, and short skirts will not be allowed. The superintendent or his designee is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations consistent with the provisions of this policy.

Additional guidelines may be established at the school and published in the school handbooks.

The following are Priest River Lamanna High School guidelines and expectations:

- School appropriate clothing shall not contain images, logos, symbols, words, etc., that are alcohol/drug related, sexually explicit or implicit, racially or religiously offensive, gang related, or deemed inappropriate by the administration.
- Students will be allowed to wear hats inside the building as long as they adhere to the other guidelines for clothing such as images, logos, and symbols. It is up to the individual teacher whether hats are allowed inside a classroom.
- Leggings shall not show underwear or allow physical access to flesh above the knee
- Shorts and skirts shall cover all aspects of a student's posterior and underwear while sitting or standing
- Holes in jeans and pants shall not expose any aspect of a student's posterior or underwear.
- Shirts shall reach the waistline of pants when arms are at rest and cover underwear and bras, excluding bra straps.
- Student are not allowed to wear strapless dresses and tops to school. Students are allowed to wear strapless tops/dresses at school dances as long as such clothing covers all aspects of a student's posterior or breasts.
- Students must wear footwear at all times.
- Underwear and bras shall not be exposed, excluding bra straps.

Exception to the rules: At the discretion of the building principal for such days as dress up days, i.e. homecoming, school spirit week and other days as agreed upon. If a student is dressed inappropriately we will first try to contact parents for alternate clothing. If we cannot reach the parents, the school will provide alternate clothing for the child.

### **Interpretation and Implementation of Policy**

The building principal/designee shall use reasonable discretion in interpreting and implementing the provisions of this policy. If a conflict arises in the interpretation of this policy, the interpretation of the building principal/designee shall be final. Principals, administrators and teachers shall use reasonable discretion in enforcing this policy.

### **Enforcement**

Teachers and administrators may deny class entrance to students dressed or otherwise adorned inappropriately until arrangements may be made for their proper attire. All time missed from classes for failure to adhere to this policy will be deemed unexcused absences. Parents or guardians will be notified each time a student is asked to leave school because of inappropriate attire. Students who are insubordinate or refuse to change the improper attire, or who repeat dress code violations shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion, depending on all the facts and circumstances, for violating the standards of student conduct.

## **Temporary Exceptions**

In order to allow appropriate attire for a particular educational or school activity, the building principal/designee has the authority to grant temporary exceptions to specific provisions of this policy and related regulations. An example of such an exception might be where a specially scheduled school event required a group of students to dress unusually on a particular day.

### Policy History:

Adopted on: March 12, 2008

Revised on: August 11, 2009

Revised on: July 18, 2018

Revised on: November 18, 2020

Legal Reference: I.C. 33-506  
I.C. 33-512(6)