

STUDENT DRESS CODE

No student's appearance, including but not limited to his/her attire, shall be considered proper and acceptable for school if it distracts from, or in any way disrupts, the educational process. The Livingston Parish School Board is responsible for achieving a systemwide dress code for appearance and dress among students that will promote the best atmosphere for teaching and learning.

DRESS AND PERSONAL GROOMING

It is the responsibility of each student to use good judgment regarding appearance and attire. Cleanliness shall be a basic consideration. Any complaint concerning a student's dress and appearance shall be addressed by the particular school's administration. The principal of the particular school shall make the final decision as to what is considered proper attire and appearance. In the event that health and medical considerations for a particular student require an exception to the Dress Code, the principal of the particular school shall determine that exception and make his/her faculty and staff aware of the exception.

The following guidelines have been established regarding all students' dress and appearance:

1. Appropriate footwear must be worn to school (no shower shoes, flip-flops).
2. Caps, hats, unprescribed glasses are not permitted.
3. Patches, decorations, slogans, symbols, tags, marks, or advertisements are prohibited. (Examples: Beer, cigarettes, drugs, obscene suggestions, sexual connotations, etc.)
4. No emblems, insignias, or monograms shall appear on any uniform item.
5. Earring(s) are not allowed for males as wearing apparel. (Ears or other body parts, shirt, pants, etc.)
6. Male hair length must be of even distribution. The hair may not extend below the plane of the shoulder nor down upon the eyebrow in front, nor down below the earlobes. Hair must be clean, well-groomed and neat at all times. (Lines cut in the hair, shaven hair, "mohawk" cuts, extreme coloring of hair, "tails" or any other hairstyle which interferes with a student's performance or that of his classmates is prohibited.)
7. Sideburns can extend to the lobe of the ear. Beards are unacceptable. Mustaches neatly trimmed are acceptable.

8. Female hair must be clean, neat and well-groomed. Extreme coloring and extreme hairstyles are not acceptable. Hair in rollers is not acceptable.
9. Foundation garments must be worn.
10. Dress during any period where uniforms are not required, such as special event days, or for transferring students, shall be consistent with the intent and spirit of the *School Uniform Dress Code*.

SCHOOL UNIFORM DRESS CODE

The School Board is permitted by state law to adopt dress codes mandating the use of school uniforms. The purpose of the *School Uniform Dress Code* shall be to provide additional opportunities for increased school safety; to encourage students to experience a greater sense of school identity and belonging; to encourage an improvement in student behavior; and to encourage a high level of program participation.

Grades Pre-Kindergarten - 12:

Note: A color chart for skirts/shorts/slacks/skorts will be displayed to clarify the color range of Khaki

Shirt:

- Solid color: Navy blue or white
- Polo: (golf-boxed, hemmed) two, three or four buttons at the top front with collar (short or long sleeves) - Middle/junior/high school students shall be required to tuck in shirts.
- Oxford/dress shirt (short or long sleeves) – Elementary students shall be encouraged to tuck in shirts. Middle/junior/high school students shall be required to tuck in shirts.
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited
- Under-shirts and t-shirts, if worn must be white in color and can only be worn underneath the standard uniform

Jumpers:

- Solid color: Khaki
- Styles must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean style or material)
- Uniform shirts must be worn under jumpers
- Length: Top of knee or longer
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited

Skirts:

- Solid color: Khaki
- Styles must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean style or material) and no rivets
- No sewn-on outside pockets or flaps

- Zip fly only
- Must be worn at waistline
- Pleated, flat or A-line
- Length: Top of knee or longer
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited
- Front and back pockets are acceptable
- Cargo-type pockets on any garment are prohibited

Shorts or Skorts:

- Solid color: Khaki
- Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean style or material) and no rivets
- No sewn-on outside pockets or flaps
- Zip fly only
- No pockets on pant legs; cargo pants are prohibited
- Pleated, flat, or A-line
- If shorts have belt loops, belts must be worn
- Middle/junior/high school students' pants must have belt loops and mandatory belt
- Must be worn at the waistline
- Length: Top of knee to four (4) inches above knee (length cannot be below the knees) (length can be cuffed or not cuffed)
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited

Slacks:

- Solid color: Khaki
- Style must be cotton twill or cotton blend (no jean style or material) and no rivets
- No sewn-on outside pockets or flaps
- No pockets on lower legs
- Zip fly only
- Straight legs
- No elastic or gathered at the ankles
- Must be hemmed and length not to exceed top of shoe (hem can be cuffed)
Can be pleated or flat front
- Elementary students may have elastic waist pants with or without belt loops (belts are optional, but encouraged)
- Middle/junior/high school students' pants must have belt loops and mandatory belt
- Must be worn at waistline
- Cropped, stirrup, parachute, wind, stretch/warm-up, Capri and jean style pants are prohibited
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms, logos, studs, holes, etc. are prohibited
- No slits in pants legs

Belts:

- Solid color and solid materials only: Black, navy blue, khaki or brown
- Elementary students shall be encouraged to wear belts
- Middle/junior/high students – belts are mandatory when wearing slacks, shorts or skorts
- Belt buckles must be plain; standard buckle
- Appropriate length for waist size
- Belts with designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited

Socks:

- Solid color: White, navy blue or khaki (must be matching pair)
- Wearing of socks is mandatory
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited
- Socks must be visible and no higher than the knee

Hose/Tights:

- Solid color: White, navy blue or skin tone
- Socks, hose or tights must be worn with shoes

Pullovers of Any Kind (sweaters, sweatshirts, vests; any garment which is pulled over the head which does not snap, button or zip from top to bottom):

- Solid color: Navy blue or white
- Pullover v-neck or pullover crew (hoods are prohibited)
- Must be worn over uniform shirt
- Turtlenecks are prohibited
- Designs, emblems, insignias, monograms and logos are prohibited

Shoes:

- Shoes that tie, buckle or velcro
- Closed-toe and closed-heel shoe mandatory (tennis shoes, dress shoes, casual shoes or slip-on shoes)
- Shoes shall be properly tied if applicable
- Boots may be worn with pants only

Coats:

- Coat/jacket/sweater may be worn as long as the uniform shirt collar is revealed under the coat/jacket/sweater (TRENCHCOATS are prohibited)
- Vests/jackets/sweaters/coats that zip/button/snap from top to bottom may be any color and with hood

In schools with multiple grade levels, the principal shall be given the opportunity to determine where the breaks would be allowed on these issues (Example: K-12 Maurepas – the principal would have the opportunity to decide where the break would be to determine elementary, middle/junior high, and high school to best adapt to that school’s structure.)

Student Compliance With the Uniform Dress Code:

The *School Uniform Dress Code of Livingston Parish* shall strive to achieve full compliance through use of incentives and positive reinforcement measures, and will resort to disciplinary action only when positive measures fail to ensure compliance. In addition, the policy's rationale and benefits of the *School Uniform Dress Code* will be explained and fully understood by the student and his or her family.

The intent of this policy is not to inhibit or prohibit any student who is not in uniform from receiving the education to which he or she is entitled. Also, the intent of this policy is not to suspend or expel a student from class or from school, or lower an academic grade as a result of not complying with the *School Uniform Dress Code*. However, non-compliance shall result in progressive disciplinary action being taken with the student.

No student shall be considered in violation of the *School Uniform Dress Code* in the following instances:

- A. When administrators allow exceptions to the uniform code for special events. (Ex. Dress-up day, athletes on game days, academic teams, clubs, picture day, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts on regular meeting days, etc.)
- B. During the first ten (10) school days after transferring from out of the Parish to Livingston Parish Schools. During this ten (10) day period, appropriate dress (according to School Board Policy) shall be followed.
- C. When a student is on campus outside of normal school hours.
- D. When a student has been authorized by the school principal to wear a school activity uniform such as those worn by members of the cheerleading squad, dance team, band or athletic teams.

Progressive Disciplinary Action:

Students violating the *School Uniform Dress Code* shall be disciplined as follows:

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| ● 1st offense | Parent/Guardian Contact |
| ● 2nd offense | Administrator/Parent, Verbal Contact |
| ● 3rd offense | Detention |
| ● 4th offense and subsequent | One (1) day out of school suspension for each offense |

Annual Evaluation:

All schools shall submit to the Superintendent an annual evaluation of the *School Uniform Dress Code* no later than February 1st of each year.

DRESS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All secondary students and other students where required by the local school, shall be required to dress out for physical education classes in a standard uniform. Exceptions can be made for religious reasons only, as hereinafter stated.

The standard uniform for physical education classes shall be as follows:

Boys

1. Plain tee shirt - school may require white or school colors.
2. Gym shorts - school may require white or school colors.
3. Gym shoes - any color.
4. Socks - predominantly white (any color top).

Girls

1. Schools may require either one or two piece uniforms in either white or school colors.
2. If a two-piece uniform is required, it shall meet the same standards as boys' uniform.
3. Gym shoes - any color.
4. Socks - predominantly white (any color top).

Schools may sell uniforms to students as a service, but students shall not be required to buy uniforms from the school. Students shall not be required to purchase new uniforms each year if their present uniforms are in acceptable condition and fit properly.

Students transferring from one school to another shall be permitted to use their present gym suits or other suitable uniforms for a reasonable period of time, until an appropriate uniform can be purchased.

Students shall be required to put their names on their uniforms for identification.

Proper dress in physical education class shall be a factor in determining a student's grade.

A student shall be allowed to dress for physical education class in accordance with his/her religious beliefs, provided that he or she has a written permission or excuse from his/her minister. Should physical education activities of the girls involve indecent exposure, the student shall be allowed to do alternative activities.

BODY ARMOR

It shall be unlawful and against School Board policy for any student or non-student to wear or possess on his/her person, at any time, body armor on any School Board property, school campus, at a school-sponsored function, on a school bus or other school transportation, or in a firearm-free zone, with limited exception as enumerated in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §14:95.9. School-sponsored functions shall include, but not be limited to, athletic competitions, dances, parties, or any extracurricular activities. A firearm-free zone means any area within one thousand feet of any school campus and within a school bus.

Body armor shall mean bullet-resistant metal or other material intended to provide protection from weapons or bodily injury.

The School Board shall notify all students of the provisions of this policy.

Revised: June, 2001

Revised: June, 2003

Revised: April, 2004

Revised: January, 2009

Ref: Scott v. Board of Education, 304 N.Y.S. 2d 601 (1969); Karr v. Schmidt, 460 F.2d 609 (5th Cir.1972); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§14:95.9, 17:81, 17:416.7; Board minutes, 10-8-69, 10-29-70, 2-3-71, 8-24-72, 9-7-72, 9-21-72, 9-26-74, 9-77, 1-80, 5-89, 8-90, 2-3-00, 4-5-01, 4-17-03, 2-19-04, 1-22-09.