



Wharton Independent School District

2022 – 2023 Dress and Grooming Guidelines

DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Wharton ISD has a dress and grooming code that is established to: teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruptions, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for oneself and others. Students should be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean, neat, that will not be a safety hazard to themselves or others, and that promotes a positive self-image and impression for both the student and those around him or her. Given that school is the student's environment where he/she will learn social skills and the proper way to interact with peers and persons of authority, students are expected to dress in a way appropriate to that environment.

The staff of the school is authorized to enforce the district's dress and grooming guidelines. Final determination of acceptable dress and grooming standards rests with the **principal or his/her designee and cannot be appealed.**

GENERAL

Any clothing, jewelry, accessories or tattoos with decorations, patches, lettering advertisements, etc. considered obscene or offensive are not allowed. This includes clothing, jewelry or accessories having criminal street gang identifiers, accessories that may be used as weapons, and accessories having drug, sex, tobacco, or alcoholic beverage references or designs.

SHIRTS

- Shirts must be clean and neat.
- Shirts/tops must touch the waist of pants/skirts at all times. (i.e., when in movement, when arms are extended or raised, and when in seated position, etc.)
- The length of an untucked shirt must not be longer than the tip of the longest finger with the student's hand fully extended down the side of the student's leg.
- Tube tops, crop tops, muscle shirts, spaghetti strap, see-through, strapless tops, and low-cut blouses/tops/sweaters are not allowed.

PANTS

- Pajama bottoms, sleepwear, or lounge wear are not allowed.
- Clothing should be appropriately sized. Baggy clothing is not allowed.
- Pants should be worn at the waist at all times. **NO SAGGING AT ANY TIME.** Pants that do not fit (are more than one size too big for the waist) should not be worn unless the student has a belt that keeps the pants in dress code.
- Pants with holes are not allowed. Skin should not be visible.
- Form fitting garments, such as leggings, are appropriate and may be worn under skirts, or dresses. **If wearing tight fitting leggings, the shirt or sweater must meet length requirements for dresses, skirts or shorts (2 inches above the knee).**
- Wind pants and sweatpants are allowed.

SHORTS/DRESSES/SKIRTS

- The length of the garment must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Loose fitting athletic (basketball) shorts are allowed.
- Dresses may not be halter type, spaghetti straps or strapless. Low cut fronts/back and/or backless dresses are not allowed.

ACCESSORIES

- Visible piercings are allowed.
- Students are not allowed to wear non-traditional piercings including, nose rings, lip rings, tongue rings, eyebrow rings and body rings, gauges and spikes are NOT allowed.
- Boys may have one (1) stud earring in each ear.
- Excessively long nails are not allowed.
- Any derogatory or inappropriate tattoos must be covered.
- For safety reasons, it is recommended that students not wear excessively large earrings or jewelry.

HAIR

- Hair should be kept neat and clean.
- Hair colors that are deemed to be a distraction are not allowed.
- Facial hair should be neat, clean, closely trimmed and not be a distraction to the learning environment.

FOOTWEAR

- Students may not wear house shoes or shoes with cleats.
- Students at the secondary level are allowed to wear Crocs and slides. However, closed-toe shoes will be required for student safety. (For example in science labs, woodshops, welding, etc.)
- **For safety reasons, it is recommended that students in Grades PK-5 wear shoes with backs. Sandals without backs and Crocs are not recommended.**

RESTRICTIONS

- Caps, hats and any form of knit cap must be removed before entering the building.
- Jackets with hoods may be worn; however **hoods should not be worn inside the building.**
- Sunglasses are not allowed in the building.

BACKPACKS/PURSES

- Backpacks with wheels are **NOT** allowed.
- Clear backpacks are **required** for PK3-12 students.
- Purses may be no larger than 5 inches x 7 inches.

IDENTIFICATION BADGES

- As a way to increase security and efficiency on secondary campuses, Wharton ISD requires all students, grades 6-12, to wear Wharton ISD-issued identification (ID) at all times. The student ID provides greater efficiency for students when interacting with various district services including the library, cafeteria, and transportation.
- All secondary students are provided their first ID card at no expense. But should the ID be lost, stolen, or damaged, a replacement must be promptly purchased for \$5 from their designated school office.