

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING FOOD DELIVERIES AND DRESS CODE

OUTSIDE FOOD AND DRINK DELIVERIES

We are unable to call students to the office or deliver any outside food or drink items to students during the school day. If a parent(s) would like to bring outside food to their student, it is permissible, if the parent agrees to wait in the entrance lobby until the student's designated lunch time at which time the student will meet the parent to obtain the food delivery.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Board of Education recognizes the value of allowing individual student expression as well as the necessity of protecting student health and safety and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to education. Student dress code procedures must be designed with the goal of balancing these competing interests.

All dress code procedures will adhere to health and safety codes and comply with applicable law. Dress that materially disrupts the educational environment will be prohibited. No procedure will impose dress and grooming rules based on gender in violation of Title IX. District procedures will specifically define ambiguous terms, and examples will be provided when practicable. The Joplin School District believes that a strong relationship exists between what a student wears and the attitude and behavior he/she displays. We ask all parents and students to understand that different modes of dress are appropriate for different activities, and that not all modes are suitable for school or school activities.

Students should always be well groomed and dressed appropriately for the activity in which the students are engaged. Dress and appearance must not present health or safety hazards, be indecent, disruptive, distracting, or inappropriate for the classroom. School officials will determine final decisions as to the appropriateness of dress and personal appearance.

Below are guidelines for students and parents to help them avoid attire or grooming which interfere with the learning environment.

Examples include but are not limited to the following:

- Headgear, jacket hoods, hats, caps and bandannas may not be worn in the building. *Caps may be worn in the building but must be removed during school hours.*
- Sunglasses and dark glasses, unless required by a doctor, are not appropriate.
- Contact lenses or eyewear that are distracting are prohibited.
- Hairstyles that are distracting in color or style are prohibited.
- Unnatural hair-coloring (fuchsia, green, blue, etc.) and painted faces are a distraction and are not appropriate for school settings.
- Footwear will be worn at all times. House shoes are not acceptable.
- Jewelry that is considered excessive or poses a threat to the safety of the student or others (chains, sharp objects, etc.) is not permitted.
- Tattoos that are considered inappropriate (depicting violence, drugs, gangs, sex, etc.) must be covered while in school.

The following examples of clothing are considered unacceptable and are not permitted:

- Mesh or other see-through clothing that reveals body parts or undergarments not allowed under other provisions of this policy; clothes that expose a bare midriff or backside, exposes cleavage or undergarments; halter-tops, tube tops, tank tops, or other sleeveless tops or shirts with excessively large openings; clothes which are cut or torn above the knees.
Students may wear sleeveless garments that adequately cover undergarments. The width of shoulder straps for sleeveless shirts must be the length of the student ID card.
- **Shorts or skirts that are excessively short:** *mid-thigh is the accepted rule on appropriate skirt/short length and is defined as no less than 4 inches above the knee.*
- **Excessively tight or loose clothing:** clothing should fit appropriately and professionally. Jeans that sag below the waste-line, or excessively tight garments, such as yoga pants, are considered inappropriate for a school setting. Clothing should fit at the waist, and yoga pants or leggings (if worn) should have proper attire over them to meet dress code expectations. (4 inch rule.)
- **Other inappropriate attire includes:** gloves, and/or clothing with vulgar, profane, ethnically derogatory messages, and messages, pictures, symbols, depictions or advertisements of gangs, violent acts, illegal substances, drugs, or alcoholic beverages.
- Oversized coats, gym bags and duffle bags should be kept in lockers or other designated areas during the school day for safety reasons.
- Because of safety issues, individual classes may have dress requirements that are more restrictive than those listed above.

Building administrators will determine if attire or related student dress code situations are likely to be disruptive or create a potential health or safety problem. Exceptions may be made in the case of appropriate team uniforms, special school events and other specific principal designated activities. Teachers are expected to enforce this policy to protect student health and safety and maintain an atmosphere conducive to education. Students who violate the dress code are expected to make the appropriate changes immediately. Students may receive school discipline including but not limited to in-school suspension, after-school detention, or OSS depending on repetition and severity of incidents.