

5511 DRESS AND GROOMING

The Readington Township School District believes it is critical that both home and school cooperate in the matter of student attire and grooming. Inappropriate dress and grooming can be disruptive to the educational process; hence, students are required to dress modestly and observe proper grooming. Students should dress in a manner that reflects good taste and decency, does not offend other members of the school community, and is neat and clean.

Each student is asked to show reasonable judgment regarding appropriate dress. Common sense standards apply as well. Clothing should be clean and comfortable. This policy applies to all schools in the District.

Dress Code Requirements/Exclusions:

1. Articles which can cause damage to students and/or property are not permitted.
2. Student should not wear or display any item that promotes illegal substances, weapons or gang affiliation. An item that contains offensive language or is degrading to any societal group is also prohibited. Items that can be interpreted by the staff as having explicit or implied double meanings will be in violation.
3. Footwear with backs must be worn at all times. i.e., no flip flops
4. Proper attire includes undergarments and no part of such may be exposed including underwear, sports bras, and lingerie.
5. Extremely tight, sheer or see-through items, strapless tops or outfits are not permitted.
6. Bathing suits are not permitted.
7. Spaghetti straps, sleeveless T-shirts, and tank tops are permitted as long as they cover the undergarment.
8. Compression or bike shorts are permitted as long as they are worn under or covered by shorts, skirt or long shirt.
9. The hem of skirts should not be more than 4 inches above the top of the kneecap.
10. The hem of shorts should be mid-thigh.
11. Abdominal, shoulder and breast areas must be covered. Tops must comfortably overlap the waist band of the bottom (no bare midriff or cleavage).
12. No pajamas or pajama-type clothing except on specially announced event days.
13. Hoods, hats, and bandanas should be removed upon entering the building, except in the case of medically fragile students.
14. Sunglasses are not permitted indoors unless medically necessary.
15. Outerwear is not appropriate inside the classroom except with the consent of the classroom teacher.



16. The Dress Code applies during school hours, at school-sponsored or organized activities and on trips. In addition, some restrictions on attire may be prescribed for participation or implemented for reasons of safety and will be communicated prior to the event.
17. Athletic uniforms may not necessarily adhere to the Dress and Grooming policy; however, wardrobe components that may be appropriate for athletics or physical education are not necessarily appropriate for the school day.

Students suspected of violating this policy will be sent to the Principal for final determination of compliance and, if found in violation, will be given an opportunity to change into more appropriate dress. If a student does not have a change of clothing, the student will be required to contact home for a change of clothing that is in compliance with the above regulation. Repeated infractions are subject to discipline. Parents will be notified of every violation.

Additional restrictions or modifications to the dress code policy may be applied to field trips. These will be reviewed by the Board of Education at the time the field trip is approved. However, the above remains in effect at all times.

Requested modifications to the dress code should be submitted 60 days prior to the event to the Superintendent for discussion with the Policy Committee.

Adopted:

