

Dress Code

Westpine Middle School follows the Student Dress Code policy as stated in the Student's Code of Conduct for Broward County Public Schools.

Appropriate dress and grooming can help to create a positive learning environment. Other attire may be allowed for special school activities with approval of the school administration. Possible consequences for violating the dress code are found in the Discipline Matrix. Changes in clothing trends will not override the dress code policy. All students are expected to honor their responsibilities and dress in a way that respects the rights of others.

1. Footwear must be worn at all times. For grades K-12, bedroom slippers are not allowed, and for elementary students, backless footwear is not allowed. Additionally, elementary students may not wear backless, sling-backs, or open-toed footwear. Socks may not be worn with backless shoes as a substitute back for backless shoes. Parent should ensure that the footwear their students wear to school does not impede their safety.
2. Special clothing, including footwear, may be required for safety reasons in certain programs or activities such as physical education, home economics, career/technical education, and science.
3. Revealing clothing or clothing that exposes the torso is not allowed. Examples include but are not limited to: tank tops or spaghetti straps without over blouses (long shirts) or jackets; see-through garments; mini-skirts or mini-dresses; halters; backless dresses; jackets, shirts, or blouses tied at the midriff; and bare midriff outfits.
4. Clothing which is not worn appropriately, is not properly fastened, or has tears that are *indecent will not be permitted. All trousers, including oversized or low-hanging trousers, must be worn and secured at waist level.
5. Garments including, but not limited to, pajamas, boxer shorts, bloomers, and bustiers which were traditionally designed as undergarments, sleepwear, or beachwear, may not be worn as outer garments. Other clothing not allowed are: leggings without overblouses (long shirts) that reach mid-thigh, tights, bodysuits, or hosiery, including those with lace trim, and bicycle racing attire unless they are worn underneath dresses, skirts, or shorts of appropriate length. Appropriate T-shirts may be worn as outer garments.
6. Clothing that exposes the upper thigh is not allowed. Shorts that are not shorter than mid-thigh, including walking shorts, Bermuda shorts, and split skirts (culottes), are allowed. For Pre-K through 3, shorter shorts may be worn since these are standard attire for these ages.
7. Clothing, jewelry, buttons, haircuts, or other items or markings which are, *suggestive, *revealing, or *indecent, associated with gangs or cults, encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or violence, or support discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability,

ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, linguistic differences, marital status, national origin, race, religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, physical appearance, or on any other basis are not allowed.

8. Head coverings including, but not limited to, caps and hats are not allowed unless they are necessary for safety in programs such as home. Appropriate dress and grooming can help to create a positive learning environment. Other attire may be allowed for special school activities with approval of the school administration. Possible consequences for violating the dress code are found in the Discipline Matrix. Changes in clothing trends will not override the dress code policy. Section III Dress Code 27 economics, technology education, vocational education, and athletics or are worn for religious or medical reasons. Bandannas are not allowed. Hats, that do not violate #7 above, are allowed to be worn outdoors for physical education and recess as a safety precaution from sun damage. Curlers and other hair grooming aids are not allowed. Personal grooming including, but not limited to, combing, brushing, and/or spraying hair, and applying cosmetics is allowed only in restrooms and/or designated areas.
9. Sunglasses may not be worn indoors unless a doctor's authorization is on file. Sunglasses are allowed to be worn outdoors for physical education and recess as a safety precaution from sun damage.
10. Any articles of clothing or jewelry that may cause injury including, but not limited to: items with spikes or sharp objects, wallet chains, and heavy link chains are not allowed.
11. Any articles of clothing or jewelry that may cause injury including, but not limited to: items with spikes or sharp objects, wallet chains, and heavy link chains are not allowed.

Note: Pursuant to F.S. 1006.07(2)(g), wearing clothing or accessories that depict a firearm or weapon or express an opinion regarding a right guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution is not grounds for disciplinary action or referral to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system. However, a student who wears clothing or accessory that causes a substantial disruption to student learning shall be issued a consequence as referred in the Discipline Matrix.

12. Parents/guardians may request exemptions for their students from participation in the mandatory unified dress program, and shall be informed by the principal, in writing, of the following procedure in this regard:
 - a. Parents/guardians may request an application for exemption from the current school.
 - b. An application for exemption must be made annually.
 - c. The application for exemption must be completed in full and must be submitted to the school principal within the first ten (10) school days of a student's initial attendance.

d. The school principal (or a designated school administrator) shall communicate with the parents to discuss the unified dress policy and the nature of the request for the exemption. The purpose of this communication shall include:

1. Ensuring that the parents/guardians understand the unified dress policy and its intent.
2. Verifying the accuracy of the information on the application for an exemption.

e. The principal's response in this regard shall be transmitted to the parents/guardians in writing via the Application for Exemption Form within ten (10) school days of submission. Principal may only deny an application if the application is received on or after the 11th school day after enrollment.

13. Violators of the uniform policy (SB Policy 5309) shall be subject to the same penalties as violators of the dress code policy. For further clarification, see the District's Discipline Matrix that assigns specific consequences and is part of the attached school's discipline plan. You may view the complete uniform policy and all School Board policies on the Web at: www.Broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies.

*Indecent, suggestive, and revealing refer to exposure of private body parts and/or pictures or words with a sexual connotation.