

Dress Code Policy

One of the fundamental purposes of school is to provide the creation and development of a proper attitude toward education. In order to further this purpose, it is essential to create and maintain an effective teaching and learning environment. Student attire impacts the teaching and learning environment. It can either promote a more effective educational environment, or it can disrupt the educational climate and process. Student attire that is acceptable for some social settings may not be acceptable for the educational environment of school.

In order to ensure that our students' education is conducted in an environment where safety risks, disruptions, and distractions are minimized, all students in the Portsmouth Public Schools will adhere to the following minimal standards of dress. These requirements are in addition to any requirements imposed at individual schools that, with approval of the School Board, adopt a Uniform Policy pursuant to other provisions of this policy manual.

The superintendent is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations consistent with the provisions of this policy.

In general, students are not to wear or carry items of apparel to school (for example, clothing, accessories, cosmetics, jewelry – including body piercing) that may interfere with the instructional process or present a health or a safety hazard to the student wearing or carrying them, or to others.

The School Board urges parents and students to exercise sound judgment, based upon the standard of appropriateness for the school setting, when choosing clothing, jewelry, and accessories to wear or bring to school, and to recognize that items that might be appropriate attire on nights or weekends are not necessarily appropriate for the school day and the classroom.

Dress Code:

I. C. Norcom High School students should not wear the following items:

- Clothing, pins, jewelry, accessories or other items of adornment displaying obscene, profane, derogatory, violent or gang-related messages, themes, designs or pictures;
- Clothing, pins, jewelry, accessories, or other items of adornment conveying messages related to or promoting the use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products, or messages that promote illegal activities;
- Clothing that is **transparent** or exposes **the midriff, navel or cleavage**, no ripped jeans;
- Pants, skirts and/or shorts that sag below the waistline or must be held in place with the hands;**
- Underwear as outer garments or clothing that exposes underwear (including, but not limited to, stretch lycra, spandex or nylon tights, leotards, biker pants/shorts, bathing suits, pajamas) ;**
- Tank tops, -wife beaters, || halter tops garments with spaghetti straps, tube tops, fishnet tops, strapless dresses, or other clothing that is not appropriate because of slits, rips, holes in the garment (ESPECIALLY NO RIPPED JEANS);**
- Accessories which could in some way pose a danger to the wearer or others; and/or could be used as weapons (including, but not limited to, two-or-three finger rings, chains hanging from clothes, hair picks and hair chop sticks);
- Clothing that is **too tight** and/or is **inappropriate in length** as determined by the building principal/designee;



- Inappropriate footwear (including, but not limited to, shower shoes and beach shoes, such as thongs, bedroom slippers, and unfastened shoes or shoes missing appropriate closures;
- Head coverings or accessories that are not related to or required by student's bona fide religious practices (including, but not limited to, **stocking caps, do rags, wave caps, scarves or bandanas**)
- Items that are intended for outdoor use (including, but not limited to, **hats, caps, and similar head coverings, scarves, jackets and coats**)

EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE CLOTHING FOR SCHOOL ARE BELOW:



