



Educationally Appropriate Dress and Appearance

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of a student rests primarily with the student and their parents or guardians. In the interest of maintaining an appropriate learning environment, the district believes in the following basic principles:

- * All students are encouraged to dress in a manner that is appropriate, comfortable and conducive to an active academic school day.
- * Students should be able to wear clothing without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- * The student dress code should serve to support all students to develop a body-positive self-image.
- * The district standard dress and appearance policy is gender neutral and applies to all students equally regardless of gender on school campuses and at school-sponsored functions and will be enforced consistently and fairly by all members of the school staff
- * Clothing and hair styles are a matter of personal choice (except for schools with uniforms). The school shall be concerned only when these choices impact the health and safety of students and staff.

Examples of inappropriate clothing include:

- clothing where the torso is exposed, i.e., tube tops, half shirts, halters
- clothing that is see-through. (clothing must be opaque)
- clothing or accessories which show profanity, obscene words or pictures, sexually suggestive statements, or incites to violence
- clothing representing gang-related activities to include but not limited to “Bulldogs” and “Chicago Bulls.”
- clothing where the entire thigh is exposed, such as micro minis or short shorts.
- bathing suits or cut-offs
- the wearing and carrying of tobacco promotional items, or items promoting controlled substances (drugs) and/or alcohol to include but not limited to include “Cookies.”
- clothing where undergarments are exposed
- clothing that has text that is libelous, bullying, constitutes harassment or discrimination
- footwear must be worn at school and all functions
- Durags are not permitted to be worn at school.
- Solid Red and Blue shirts are not permitted.
- Students may wear McLane branded hats indoors and outdoors during the school day.



Dress code can be adjusted for the following exceptions:

Times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities and where the standard dress and appearance policy would not be appropriate for the activity.

Times when students are engaged in specific courses where modification is needed to ensure the safety of the students engaged in the class. Examples include lab sciences, CTE classes or other classes that contain potential hazards.

Sun Protective Clothing

Articles of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats, may be worn provided that sun-protective clothing does not otherwise violate other provisions of the dress-code. Clothing and hats determined by the school district or school site to be gang-related or inappropriate apparel may be prohibited by the school site's dress code policy.

At McLane High School we will provide opportunities to correct dress-code violations which will include but are not limited to, parental contact or offer of exchange of clothing. Any discipline that shall arise out of dress code violations shall have minimal loss of instructional time as its goal.

If a parent/guardian or student disagrees with the site administrator's decision on a standard violation, the parent/guardian or student shall attempt to resolve the problem by requesting a personal conference with a Vice Principal and/or Principal.

1. Dangerous or Disruptive Violations. Dress or appearance-violations that cause actual disruption of the educational environment, result in actual violation of law or other school rules, including hate-crime laws, or cause actual injury may result, at the discretion of the district Administration, in more serious disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion without regard to the policy set forth above for standard violations. The process for appeal of these dangerous or disruptive violations shall be consistent with standard district disciplinary procedures.

Exception to Regulations

Generally, these neutral dress rules will be applied to all students without regard to personal circumstances. However, religious beliefs, medical requirements or other reasons may be grounds for an exception to a specific portion of the district Standard Dress & Appearance policy with specific advance approval from the district. A petition for an exemption from enforcement of a specified portion of district Standard Dress & Appearance policy may be submitted to the principal. Under no circumstances will the principal allow an exception for dress that displays gang symbols, uses profanity, displays products or slogans that promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs or sex, materially interferes with school work, materially disrupts the school environment, substantially disrupts the school environment or which creates a risk of safety.

Gang-Related Apparel

Gang-related apparel is not acceptable and is determined through ongoing collaboration with Law Enforcement agencies to stay updated on changes in gang-related apparel at the beginning of each semester or as often as needed.