

Richmond Community Schools
Code of Student Attire
Revised May 2009
(Changes are underlined and in bold font.)

This code of student attire is intended to provide guidelines for acceptable student apparel and appearance and to promote an atmosphere of success for all students. The purpose of such guidelines is also to promote student safety and civility, reduce disciplinary problems, increase security within the school, and avoid disruptions to the educational process.

Each student has the responsibility to dress appropriately for the school environment. Wearing apparel, hair, and general appearance shall not disrupt the learning environment or violate health and safety rules.

1. *General*

- A. Clothing and accessories shall not be worn if they display or suggest:
 - Profanity
 - Symbols of violence
 - Gang or gang-like symbols
 - Alcohol, tobacco, or drugs
 - Obscene or foul language
 - Discriminatory messages
 - Sexually suggestive messages
 - Vulgarity
- B. Clothes with rips, tears, and/or holes are not permitted.
- C. Any article of clothing, jewelry, or accessory that could cause injury to oneself or others is not permitted.
- D. Chains are not permitted.
- E. Sunglasses shall not be worn inside unless prescribed by a physician or authorized by the school administration.

2 *Footwear*

- A. Shoes with laces are to be laced and tied.
- B. House slippers are not permitted.
- C. Shoes manufactured with wheels are permitted as long as they are capped and the wheels are not exposed.

3. *Headwear*

- A. Head coverings, including but not limited to caps, hats, wigs, bandannas, hair curlers, picks, combs, hoods, and scarves, may not be worn inside unless authorized by the school administration.
- B. Wigs prescribed by physicians or authorized by the school administration will be permitted.

4. *Pants*

- A. **Pants must be plain with no message.**
- B. Baggy pants, pants with legs that extend over the shoes to drag the ground, **and pants with holes** are not permitted.
- C. Belts must be appropriately buckled.
- D. Pants will be worn fitted to the waist with or without a belt, and they will not expose undergarments.
- E. Properly placed patches to cover holes or tears at the knee or below may be worn with pants.
- F. Flannel and pajama pants are not permitted.

G. Plain shorts may be worn and may not be shorter than the tips of the individuals' middle fingers when they are standing upright with their arms at their sides.

5. *Shirts and Tops*

- A. Size appropriate **short or long sleeved polo shirts or T-shirts with a crewneck** are acceptable.
- B. **Shirts must be plain.** Message bearing shirts other than those that **promote Richmond Community Schools** are not permitted.
- C. Shirts worn outside the pants are to be below the waist, but above the thighs and size appropriate.

6. *Skirts and Dresses*

Skirts and dresses may not be shorter than the tips of the individuals' middle fingers when they are standing upright with their arms at their sides.

7. *Undergarments*

- A. See-through or mesh garments may only be worn as undergarments.
- B. Spandex articles may only be worn as undergarments.
- C. Form fitting or overly tight clothing may only be worn as undergarments.
- D. Undergarments, such as boxer shorts, are not to be worn so that they are visible.

8. *Outerwear*

- A. **Plain** sweatshirts **are** permitted, with the following guidelines:
 - Two-inch band at the bottom
 - Worn below the waist and above the thighs
- B. Message bearing sweatshirts other than those that **promote programs of Richmond Community Schools** are not permitted.
- C. Sweaters and vests may be worn with the same guidelines as the sweatshirts.
- D. Coats are not to be worn inside unless authorized by the school administration.

9. *Exceptions*

- A. Specific outfits designed for extracurricular activities and authorized by the school administration will be permitted.
- B. Decisions regarding questionable clothing will be left to the discretion of the principal.
- C. These guidelines represent minimal standards that may be modified to a more restrictive level at any of the buildings. Building principals may temporarily modify the Code in his/her respective building to meet immediate needs. Permanent changes in the Code must be advanced with Central Office approval through the established formal discussion process as established in Public Law 217.