

DRESS CODE

Suggestive, provocative or excessively tight clothing is not allowed to be worn to school or to school-sponsored activities. CCPS does not allow clothing to be worn on school property or to school-sponsored activities, which displays messages, or images that are offensive, vulgar, harassing, or otherwise inappropriate for the school setting. Clothing that is judged by the school administration to be disruptive to the orderly school process either by virtue of the design or in the manner in which it is worn is also forbidden.

Members of the Charles County Association of Student Councils, in collaboration with parents, staff, and community members, developed the following system-wide dress code, as amended and approved by the Board of Education.

1. Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities including physical education, science labs, wood shop, and other activities where unique hazards exist.
2. Shorts, skirts, and slits in skirts or dresses must reach at least the middle of the thigh, defined as shoulders relaxed and arms straight down alongside the body where fists touch the thigh.
3. Clothing must cover the chest area, cleavage, torso, and undergarments. Tops may not be lower than mid-back.
4. Spaghetti straps and garments that are both strapless and sleeveless are not permitted during the school day.
5. Undergarments must not be visible at any time.
6. Pants must be secured no lower than mid-hip.
7. Ripped Jeans are permitted as long as holes fall below the shorts length criteria, are limited to the front side of the leg, and do not exceed three inches in diameter above the knee.
8. Leggings are permitted when worn with a top that meets the expectations of shorts and skirts (see #2).
9. Backless and open-toed shoes with a hard sole are permitted as long as the shoes do not pose a safety hazard. Foam and similar soft-soled shoes, such as flip-flops or beach footwear, are prohibited.
10. Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible to staff, and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. Hoodies must allow the face and ears to be visible at all times.
11. Sunglasses are not permitted except during outdoor activities.
12. Sleepwear and sleepwear-type clothing are only permitted for certain activities, such as overnight field trips and spirit days.
13. Clothing that displays or symbolizes any language or material that is inappropriate for school or offensive to any group is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, material relating to drugs, alcohol, profanity, obscenity, racism, gang activity and violence.

14. Formal attire must not be disruptive or distracting. Spaghetti straps and strapless formal garments are acceptable as long as adequate coverage is maintained during activity. Slits in skirts or other garments must meet the expectations for the same in rule #2. Transparent attire is prohibited. Necklines may not fall below mid-sternum. Backless garments are permitted at any formal affair.
15. The dress code is in effect for participating students at all school-sponsored events on and off campus.

Note: Administrators have the flexibility to exercise their judgment, with the authority of the executive director of schools, to determine if a student's attire is considered disruptive, distracting, or a safety hazard. Exceptions may be granted for medical or religious reasons.