

DRESS CODE

The purpose for implementing this student dress code policy for all students in grades Kindergarten through 12 is to strengthen the learning environment for classroom instruction and academic performance; prevent disruption to the educational process; prevent distraction to students, staff and the educational process; facilitate learning; increase the atmosphere for school pride and personal appearance; and enhance the image of students and the school in the Sharon community.

This dress code policy shall be in effect during the regular school year (including the last day of school).

TOPS

Permitted:

Tops are permitted in the following color combinations: orange, black, white, and gray.

All tops must be worn with a collar or crew look. Polo-style shirts with a collar, oxford shirts with a collar, dress shirts with a collar, turtlenecks, and mock turtlenecks are permitted. School-color sweaters including crew neck, v-neck, full length zipper, half-zipper pullover, boat neck, vest/sweater vest, and cardigan are permitted. School-color fleecewear or Sharon Tiger team wear with a full- or half-zip are permitted.

No more than the top two (2) buttons may be unbuttoned on any style of a collared shirt. All shirts must have sleeves including short sleeve, cap-sleeve, three-quarter length, and long sleeve.

Any logo or emblem that measures over 2-by 2-inches must be school colors.

Undergarment shirts must not go below the mid-thigh area in length and must be worn in the approved solid colors (orange, black, white, gray).

All shirts must have finished seams, including sleeves, collars and shirt sides.

Students are not required to “tuck-in” tops. All tops must not go below the mid-thigh area in length. Students must wear clothes that fit.

Prohibited:

Hooded tops or “hoodies” are prohibited. Hooded tops or “hoodies” may be worn as outerwear but must be placed in lockers upon arrival to school. Outerwear/outdoor clothing is not permitted once classes begin.

Sports style fitted tops (Under Armor type-compression style) may not be worn singularly.

Wearing an oversize/draping shirt hanging at the knee area, touching the knee or below the knee is strictly prohibited.

Tops which expose the midriff or waist/belly button/stomach area are strictly prohibited.

Permitted:

TIGER WEAR TOPS

School-affiliated crewneck t-shirts (short sleeve, long sleeve and three-quarter length) and crewneck sweatshirts are permitted. These school-affiliated crewneck t-shirts and sweatshirts are considered as “Tiger Wear,” which is defined as a spirit wear shirt affiliated with Sharon Middle/High School and/or Sharon Elementary Schools. Examples of Tiger Wear shirts include the following: spirit wear tops affiliated with the school PTO, spirit wear tops affiliated with school-sponsored athletic programs, spirit wear tops affiliated with the instrumental band, orchestra, and vocal music school-sponsored programs, and spirit wear tops affiliated with school-sponsored clubs. In addition, spirit wear crewneck t-

shirts and sweatshirts purchased from local stores or merchants that display an affiliation with Sharon Middle/High School and/or Sharon Elementary Schools are permitted but must meet all dress code regulations (i.e. colors, neck line, fabric, etc.). It is strongly recommended that all groups seek pre-approval for Tiger Wear Tops prior to any sale to ensure that they comply with this policy. Tops sold that do not comply may not be worn as part of the student's dress apparel.

All Tiger Wear tops must be in the following color combinations, including embroidery/silk screens/etc., orange, black, white, and gray. Only Tiger Wear tops in color combinations of orange, black, white, and gray are permitted.

BOTTOMS

Permitted:

Bottoms are permitted in the following colors: black, gray, white and khaki and must be solid in color. All bottoms must be no shorter than two inches from the top of the knee.

Students are not required to wear a belt with bottoms. All bottoms must be worn at the waist. *The waist is defined as the area between the bottom of the rib cage and top of the hip bone.*

All bottoms including, skirts, skorts, shorts, jumpers, and dresses must have a finished hem.

Prohibited:

Blue denim is prohibited. Cut-offs or holes of any kind are not permitted in bottoms. Students are not permitted to wear, pajama bottoms, pajama bottom-style pants, athletic style pants and shorts, Sweat pants/jogging pants and sweat shorts, which includes fleece, cotton, nylon, spandex and velour. Additionally, bottoms of any style made with flannel, fleece, velour, or spandex are not permitted.

Wearing bottoms which expose skin or undergarments or wearing oversize/draping baggy style pants to create a "sag" look is strictly prohibited.

HOSIERY

Permitted:

1. Tights, leotards, etc. are permitted but limited in color to solid black, orange, white, gray, and khaki AND MUST be worn under an approved style bottom (shorts, dress, skirt, etc...)
2. Socks of various colors are permitted.

Prohibited

1. Fishnet or ripped-up stockings are not permitted.

DRESSES/JUMPERS AND SKIRTS/SKORTS

1. All dresses must have a collar **or crew look** and sleeves or be worn with an approved top. All jumpers must be worn with an approved top.
2. Dresses and jumpers must be no shorter than two (2) inches from the top of the knee.
3. Dresses, jumpers and skirts/skorts must be one of the following solid colors **OR color combinations**: orange, black, white, gray, or khaki.
4. The hemline on skirts, skorts, dresses and jumpers must be no shorter than two (2) inches from the top of the knee.

FOOTWEAR

Permitted:

Students are **required** to wear any style of “closed toe” footwear, made of canvas, plastic, rubber, leather, fake/faux leather or leather-like synthetic compound with either a rubber sole or leather sole, which includes: dress shoes, casual shoes, athletic shoes, closed-toe Crocs, boots, and closed toe sandals. Footwear may have a back or be “backless” in nature. Boots may extend no higher than the bottom of the knee.

Prohibited:

“Open toe” footwear is strictly prohibited. Slippers and flip flops of any kind (leather, transparent plastic, rubber, wood, etc.) are strictly prohibited. Flip flops are defined as flat and backless consisting of a flat sole held loosely on the foot by a Y-shaped or V-shaped strap, like a thin thong, that passes between the first (big) and second toes and around either side of the foot. Shower shoes are strictly prohibited. Shower shoes are defined as those meant to be used near pools, bathrooms, or other wet places, and are made of plastic or rubber.

Shoes with wheels (“heelies”) are strictly prohibited.

DRESS CODE EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the dress code shall include the following:

1. Students participating in a nationally-recognized youth organization (such as Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts) may wear their uniforms on those days such organizations have a scheduled function.
2. Athletic team representation such as game day jerseys/uniforms (uniform skirts that do not meet the minimum length requirement are not permitted during the regular school day. In addition, cheerleading shells (vests or tops) cannot be worn singularly but must have a dress code apparel approved top underneath.). Sharon Tiger and Colt football and cheer squads are permitted to wear their uniform tops each Friday during their season. On game days, community athletic teams can wear uniform tops that adhere to school top color requirements.

Other exceptions are made only upon the prior approval of the Building Principal. Such exception requests must be made in writing at least 24 hours in advance where practicable and must include a reason/explanation for the request.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS

Requests for exemptions from the dress code based upon one’s religion or religious beliefs must be made at least 24 hours in advance where practicable in writing to the Principal including an explanation of why the religion/religious belief prevents compliance with the dress code.

GENERAL

All clothing is to be clean and neat.

Attire that is not in compliance with this dress code policy is not permitted. In addition to the clothing items expressly prohibited under this policy, Principals and District Administration have discretion to address any attire/body art that is offensive, degrading, vulgar, contrary to the educational mission of the school that disrupts the learning environment, or infringes upon the rights of others.

All clothing must be of appropriate size and fit neatly. Any clothing that is too tight, revealing/see-through, or saggy/baggy, including but not limited to low necklines, midriff tops, and form-fitting tops or bottoms, is not permitted.

HAIR

Hair is to be clean and neatly groomed.

Hair color, including highlights, must be within the spectrum of color that hair grows naturally, such as shades of blonde, black, auburn/red, and brunette.

Mohawks, long spikes, and other extreme hair styles which are disruptive/distracting to the educational process or pose a safety hazard are not permitted.

Hair must not be worn in a way which obstructs the natural vision from student or staff members.

JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES

Jewelry or accessories that may be used as weapons are not to be worn to school. This includes, but is not limited to, jewelry such as spiked rings, spiked bracelets, spiked dog collars, chained wallets, two or three finger rings that are connected, and bulky chains worn around the neck or waist.

Chains and sharp objects such as spikes are not allowed on clothing or book bags.

No head coverings are permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, caps, hats, hoods, bandanas, wave caps, sweatbands, skull caps, sunglasses, headsets, or any other head covering. Combs, rakes, or picks should not be worn in the hair. Exception requests, including those based upon religious beliefs or medical reasons, must be made in writing to the school principal along with an explanation of how the religious belief/religion prevents compliance with the ban on head coverings at least 24 hours in advance where practicable.

Items must be used to hold ones hair back or to keep ones hair out of their eyes. Items cannot be worn as a headband and just around the forehead. A bandana cannot be worn as a headband under any circumstance.

Body piercing and displaying jewelry in areas such as the nose, eyebrows, lips and tongue are permitted but are limited to a STUD ONLY.

“Gauging” or stretching of the mouth/lips/and/or earlobe as well as the following types of earrings, ear/body jewelry, and ear/body piercing are not permitted: flesh tunnels, flesh plugs, ear/lip stretchers, ear/lip expanders (gauges), and similar ear/lip stretching devices or jewelry.

Students may not wear tinted glasses, or sunglasses. Decorative contact lenses are not permitted.

Gold teeth or grills of any type are strictly prohibited.

GANG-AFFILIATED ATTIRE/ACCESSORIES

A “gang” as defined in this policy means any organization, association, or group of three or more which has a unique name or identifiable signs, symbols, or marks, and whose members individually or collectively engage in criminal or violent behavior to persons or property, or who create an unreasonable and substantial disruption of a class, activity, program, or other function of a school.

Any gang attire, symbols, signs, tattoos, hairstyles, or other things which are evidence of membership in, or affiliation with, recruitment, or desire to be affiliated with, any gang are prohibited. Gang related attire/accessories include but are not limited to the following:

- Bandanas or any article of clothing bearing gang symbols, names, initials, insignias, or anything else that signals gang affiliation;
- Students rolling up one pant leg;
- Long bulky chains and necklaces, gang-styled belt buckles, or large oversized pendants on necklaces and chains; and
- Draping articles of clothing, towels, or other objects out of pant pockets or over the shoulder or neck area.

As gang styles and clothing continually evolve and change, additional styles and apparel may be considered gang-affiliated, as identified in consultation with School Officials and law enforcement authorities.