

Amelia County Public Schools
Approved Dress Code Regulation
Adopted December 16, 2013

The Amelia County School Board recognizes the importance of a division wide dress code in promoting and maintaining an orderly and safe learning environment. The Board further recognizes that neatly attired and well groomed students take more pride in themselves. Additionally, students are more likely to practice habits of self-discipline and display a more positive attitude and demeanor toward all aspects of the division's educational program. The purpose of the dress code is to eliminate distractions while at school so as to increase the focus on instruction and to encourage and promote professional and responsible dress for all students.

The following guidelines apply to all students in Amelia County Public Schools and apply to students while in attendance at school or school-sponsored events (i.e football games, basketball games, other sporting events):

Dress Code:

- Headgear will not be permitted to be worn in the building except for educational, religious, or medical purposes. Headgear refers to a covering for the head including, but not limited to, hats, caps, bandannas, headbands, and scarves.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn in the building at all times. Heelies, Bella Ballerinas, bedroom slippers, sock feet and bare feet are not permitted. In instances when particular footwear is deemed to be unsafe, the principal shall make the decision regarding appropriateness.
- Shorts, skirts, skorts, and dresses must NOT be shorter than 3 inches above the knee for elementary school students. For Middle School and High School students the length must NOT be shorter than 4 inches from the top of the knee.
- Pants must be worn at the waist. No sagging, or "low rise" clothing is allowed.
- No rips, tears, holes or pants made to appear to look torn above the knee are allowed.
- Spandex, biker shorts, or other form-fitting clothing may not be worn alone. Form-fitting clothing may be worn as an undergarment, as long as the outer garment is in compliance with the dress code when worn alone.
- Shirts and blouses must be of sufficient length, have the capacity to be tucked into the waistband, and must completely cover the upper torso. Tops which expose undergarments or the torso are not allowed.
- For middle and high school students, shirts must have a sleeve extension past the shoulder seam. Necklines shall be modest, not revealing, and shall not allow cleavage to show. For students in elementary school, shirts with straps must be at least one inch in width on the shoulder.
- Students' clothing, haircuts, or tattoos may not display any of the following:
 - Weapons

- Pictures of tobacco products
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Nudity
- Vulgarities
- Obscene, lewd, or profane words
- Inflammatory racial statements
- Other prohibited expression as outlined

Any clothing that has a likelihood of causing substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities is prohibited.

Principals will make a decision when there is any question about appropriate or inappropriate student dress.

Principals may designate days for students to wear particular attire in recognition of school-wide events such as "Dress-Up Day", Spirit Week, etc.

Willful violation of the student dress code regulation will subject the student to disciplinary action by the school's administrators. These progressive disciplinary actions may include phone calls to parents for the first violation, to various in-school actions, to suspension from school for continued willful violations.

Parents and students are encouraged to consider the following statement when contemplating whether a particular clothing item is appropriate: **IF IN DOUBT, DON'T WEAR IT OUT!**