

Dress Code Guidelines for WHEA

These guidelines are intended to apply to all members of the school– students at each Tier, teachers, support staff, etc.

All Members of the WHEA Community (Students, Staff, Etc.):

- have the right to express themselves, feel comfortable in what they wear, and have the freedom to make dress choices (e.g., clothing, hairstyle, makeup, jewelry, fashion, style, etc.).
- share in the responsibility for ensuring that clothing choices don't interfere with any health or safety requirements (e.g., the need for proper footwear in labs, avoiding wearing flowy dresses/skirts that could lead to the potential risk of injury).
- have the additional responsibility to support and protect the health, well-being, and safety of one another by fostering a positive school climate that affirms and respects everyone's fashion choices and freedom of expression.
- commit to not wearing any clothing promoting or symbolizing drugs, alcohol, illegal activity, hate or discrimination, profanity, pornography; that incites violence or harassment; or threatens health and safety.
- are expected to wear clean, neat clothing that is appropriate for our school environment;
- dress in clothing that fits fully and appropriately (deemed decent and modest, e.g. covering underwear garments, midriffs, no strapless tops, etc.).

All members of the WHEA community are expected **to arrive** at school dressed properly according to these dress guidelines and **must remain so while on-campus (before, during, and after the school day)**.

The school community will respond to dress code violations in a consistent and fair way that:

- Is inclusive and non-gender specific, avoiding reinforcing gender and other stereotypes; ensures no student is negatively affected by dress code enforcement because of their identity.
- Works with the student 1:1 while respecting student privacy
- Treats the violation as minor and doesn't interfere with the student's access to their education and related activities unless deemed a concern warranting immediate attention (e.g. deeply offensive or potential safety risk).
- Ensures students are not shamed or required to display their bodies in front of others (students, parents/guardians, or staff) in school.
- Offers a variety of choices to remedy any inappropriate dress such as asking the student to wear additional clothing of their own to obscure the inappropriate dress choice, to borrow additional clothing from a peer, contact a family member to bring extra clothes, or to wear clothing provided by the school.

In general, the school reserves the right to require anyone deviating from the established expectations of appropriate attire may be required to change into a school "uniform". Subsequent non-compliance with dress appropriateness or refusal to take corrective measures may result in being assigned to a restoration/reflection conference to address concerns in a proactive manner, which could include loss of privileges or assigned school "community" service.

The school reserves the right to address any clothing issues not covered in the dress code. Non-compliance with the school dress code will result in parent notification and may result in a disciplinary referral. If immediate action is needed, the school's **administration will make the final judgment, interpretations, and changes regarding dress code issues**, but with the understanding that issues related to the dress code will be brought to the attention of the school's Rights & Responsibilities Committee for review, interpretation and possible proposed revisions for shared stakeholder consideration.

PLEASE NOTE: If the school authorizes students to dress differently for an educational activity/project, such as a Showcase exhibition event, hosting school tours, or a WHEA off-campus excursion or event a description of appropriate dress is expected for participation will be announced/posted.