

DRESS AND GROOMING

Comal ISD takes pride in the appearance of its students. As such, appropriate student dress and grooming are important factors in the safe and orderly operation of the schools. Each student's appearance should reflect a positive image of the school and contribute to a distraction-free learning environment.

Our district values and needs the support of parents in upholding the district and campus dress and grooming guidelines. The student and his/her parent(s) may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards provided that the student's dress and grooming:

- **shall not lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from school activities; and**
- **shall not create a health problem or safety hazard for the student or others.**

Using these general guidelines and the specific guidelines listed below, school administrators, with the input and support of faculty members, have the final decision in determining and enforcing student dress and grooming standards at school and at all school-related activities. Exceptions will be permitted for bona fide religious reasons. **Parents are expected to be knowledgeable and supportive of the dress and grooming guidelines.**

Specific Guidelines/Restrictions for Student Dress and Grooming Guidelines

- Students should wear garments, shoes, jewelry, accessories and hairstyles that are appropriate and modest in length and coverage;
- reflect a positive image of the school and contribute to a distraction-free learning environment; and
- lead teachers and/or staff to reasonably believe that the issue does not interfere with, disturb, or distract from the classroom and/or learning environment.

Students are not to wear clothing that is tight, loose, sagging, cut, torn, baggy, revealing, spaghetti-strap, backless, low cut or short.

Pants – must be worn at the waist or upper hip and must not reveal underclothing

Shorts and Skirts - must be fitted at the waist or upper hip, must not reveal underclothing, and must be mid-thigh in length or longer

Tops, Shirts and Blouses – must not reveal underclothing, midsection, torso, back, chest, breasts or cleavage

Dresses – must not reveal underclothing, midsection, torso, back, chest, breasts, or cleavage and must be mid-thigh in length or longer

Shoes – must not detract from or interfere with the learning environment or present a safety or health hazard. Tennis shoes or closed-toe shoes are preferred. House shoes/house slippers of any kind are not allowed.

Head Coverings – no type of head covering is to be worn with the exception of (1) a cap or hat that is part of a uniform worn at a school activity or (2) for religious or medical purposes.

Underclothing – must wear appropriate underclothing;

Pajamas/loungewear – **any and all pajamas/loungewear** are prohibited

Jewelry/Piercings – Noisy, distracting and excessive jewelry or accessories are prohibited (including wallet chains). Jewelry/Piercings must not detract from or interfere with the learning environment or present a safety or health hazard.

Tattoos - permanent or temporary, must be covered at all times.

Hair/Make-up – Hair must be well groomed, neat and clean at all times; hair style/color and makeup must not detract from or interfere with the learning and school environment.

Backpacks – must not detract from or interfere with the learning environment or present a safety or health hazard

Students participating in school-related activities, such as extracurricular or UIL activities or other special functions, may have a different dress or grooming code required by the sponsor, coach, or administration.

Interpretative Authority

The example and guidelines listed above may not cover every possible instance of appropriate or inappropriate grooming or appearance. The interpretative authority as to what dress or grooming is inappropriate, disruptive, a hindrance to best learning situations, or a detriment to best discipline shall be vested in the principal, the assistant or grade level principal, or any other administrative authority in the school system. Non-compliance of the dress code/grooming standards will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the student code of conduct.