

## **THE DRESS CODE AT DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Students are expected to come to school appropriately dressed for the business of learning with proper attention given to their personal appearance. A professional appearance with overall neatness and decency should be a common goal for all. Administration will make interpretations for any article of clothing or jewelry not covered under the following regulations. The items below are simply a guide. If an item of clothing is deemed to be a safety issue or a disruption to the educational environment, a student may be asked to alter his/her appearance.

### **Pants:**

1. Pants should be free of holes, tears, and/or frays that expose skin above the knee.
2. In the spirit of professional dress, students are not permitted to wear the following:
  - Sheer leggings/tights that are worn as pants
  - Pajama pants
3. Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be at least fingertip length as arms are held at one's side when standing.
  - Athletic shorts are not permitted at any time.
4. Pants must be worn at waist level (at or above the iliac crest bone). There should be no underwear or gym shorts exposed.
5. Chains may not be worn or attached to pants or shirts.

### **Shirts:**

1. Shirts must have sleeves and should fit properly including covering the cleavage line, midriff, and undergarments. Shirts should not be see-through.
2. Shirts must not have any inappropriate language (implied or stated) or promote any inappropriate product or messages (drugs, alcohol, lewdness, violence, etc.).

### **Outerwear:**

1. Sweatshirts, sweater vests, cardigans or sweaters may be worn (no heavy jackets or coats).
2. Hooded garments are permitted, but hoods must remain off a student's head at all times while in the building.
3. Hats, bandanas, sunglasses, or other similar head coverings are not allowed during the school day.
4. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. Slippers are not permitted.

### **Identification Cards/Lanyards:**

1. Students' identification cards (IDs) should be displayed at all times using the SLC lanyard provided to students at the beginning of the year.
2. New IDs and lanyards can be purchased for a nominal fee if students need to replace either item.
3. Failure to properly display lanyard and ID may result in disciplinary action.

### **Personal Electronic Devices:**

1. Cell phones should remain on silent and in lockers at all times during the school day.
2. Cell phones may be confiscated if they are used without permission. (Students are encouraged to communicate with teachers regarding urgent cell phone use.)
3. Ear buds are permitted at the discretion of the teacher. Ear buds are not the same as headphones. Students should leave headphones at home.
4. Ear buds may be confiscated if they are used without permission or in a way that disrupts the learning environment.
5. Bluetooth/wireless speakers should not be brought to school.
6. Personal electronic devices are brought to school at your own risk.

Failure to comply with these dress guidelines may result in disciplinary action. If styles or needs change throughout the school year, administration reserves the right to modify the dress code as deemed necessary.