



# 2021-2022 **River Ridge Middle School DRESS CODE**

In order to promote an orderly learning environment in our schools while preparing all students for later success in the world of work, the District School Board of Pasco County has established the following guidelines for student dress:

- ✓ The principal, or designee, shall determine the appropriateness of dress and appearance in accordance with the guidelines distributed by the school, school board policy and guidelines contained herein. The principal, or designee, will make the decision if a student's appearance meets school and community standards. The principal's decision on the appropriateness of dress is final as long as it does not contradict official district policy listed herein or elsewhere.
- ✓ These guidelines are in effect while on any District School Board of Pasco County school or campus, at any school function or on any school-sponsored transportation.
- ✓ Clothing must cover the body from one armpit across to the other armpit and down to approximately mid thigh. Tops must have straps at least 1" across. Undergarments must not be viewable.
- ✓ Tops must be long enough to clearly overlap the belt line or stay tucked in during the course of normal movement throughout the school day.

The following types of clothing, items, accessories and apparel are considered inappropriate for the school environment. Students that wear the same may be subject to discipline in accordance to the Student Code of Conduct.

- Jeans or pants with rips or holes that expose undergarments, areas of the body that would generally be covered by undergarments or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner
- Wallet chains, dog collars or similar items
- Slippers or similar footwear
- Pajamas or costumes (unless approved by school administration for special events, spirit week, etc.)
- Leggings, yoga pants, spandex, tights or similar clothing (unless covered by a shirt down to mid thigh)
- Jewelry that may cause safety issues and/or substantially disrupt the school setting
- Hats, bandanas or head coverings (unless pre-approved administratively for medical, religious reasons and/or for special school activities)

Any clothing, items, accessories or apparel which may or does:

- Substantially disrupt the school setting
- Be offensive to good taste or the maintenance of decorum
- Expose underwear, body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner and/or abdomen skin

Any clothing, items, accessories or apparel which contain or display:

- Profanity in any form
- Violent images
- Vulgarity in any form
- Sexually suggestive words, phrases or images
- Sexually implicit or explicit images
- Advertisements or usage of tobacco, alcohol or drugs
- Gang-related images and/or images that signify gang affiliation or anti-social group affiliation

- Offensive designs tattooed or imprinted on the body must be covered.
- Students shall wear shoes for foot protection and hygienic reasons while on school grounds or on school transportation. Slippers are not acceptable.
- If issued, student must be in possession of school badges during all school activities and must present the badge to school officials upon request.
- Schools may not require a student to remove or discipline a student for wearing clothing that depicts a firearm or weapon or expresses an opinion regarding a right guaranteed by the Second Amendment (F.S. 1006.07).
- Clothing depicting violent acts and/or violence remain inappropriate for the school setting.

#### **Students in violation of the dress code:**

- Will be required to change into appropriate clothing, contacting the parent/guardian as needed.
- Students may be required to remain in the front office until the above condition is met per principal discretion.
- May receive a discipline referral and receive consequences as appropriate for repeated breaches of the policy.

**First Offense:** The student shall be given a verbal warning and the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent or guardian.

**Second Offense:** The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days and the school principal or designee shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.

**Third or Repeated Offense:** The student shall receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities. (F.S. 1006.07, 1003.01)