

# **COLUMBIANA MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE 2020-2021**

Columbiana Middle School students are expected to be clean and neat, in keeping with an atmosphere for learning. The Shelby County Schools Dress Code serves as a *minimum* guide to acceptable dress. Unless there is a medical or other compelling reason, the administrative staff of Columbiana Middle School shall have the final authority in determining acceptable or unacceptable dress and/or grooming.

- A. All students must wear **shirts, blouses, or dresses with a collar or a non-revealing neckline** such as crew neck, jewel neck, or boat neck. Students should not wear strapless tops, tube tops, halter-tops, low cut, open back, backless, bare midriff, or clothing that allows the midriff to be exposed. As a rule of thumb—when the arms are raised, shirts that allow the midriff to be exposed may not be worn to school. Shirts that are excessively tight or revealing, or excessively long or oversized may not be worn to school. Shirts that are sheer/see-through may not be worn without full-coverage of undergarments and flesh.
- B. Male students may not wear sleeveless garments. Female students may wear sleeveless garments only if the shoulder is fully covered from the base of the neck to top of arm and undergarments are completely covered. Spaghetti and/or thin-strapped shirts may be worn only over a sleeved T-shirt or if covered by a blouse with sleeves.
- C. No obscene language, unacceptable graphics, and/or illegal substances or advertisements (to include alcoholic and tobacco advertisements) may be worn on clothing or accessories.
- D. No hats, caps, bandanas, head coverings, hair curlers, picks, or sunglasses will be worn in school.
- E. Hair colors or styles that are disrupting or distracting to the educational process are prohibited.
- F. **Dresses, skirts, skorts or shorts must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee.** Skirts/dresses must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee in the front and back. Asymmetrical or irregular hem lines **must be no shorter than three (3) inches above the knee at the highest point.** If the skirt/dress has a slit, the **top of the slit must be no higher than three inches above the knee.** Leggings, jeggings or other similar garments may be worn only with an appropriate length (no shorter than 3 inches above the knee) outer/over garment.
- G. Pants, shorts, and skirts should fit properly, must be worn at the waist, and must be fastened securely. Articles of clothing worn too low, too long, too large, too tight, or too loose are not permitted. Pajama style pants, snap aways, and soccer/athletic shorts are prohibited. Athletic type pants may be worn only during physical education classes. (Including but not limited to, wind suit pants and soccer shorts).
- H. For safety reasons, students are required to wear **appropriate shoes that fit securely at all times.** Shoes with wheels are not appropriate for the school environment.
- I. Students' clothing should be **neat and clean and shall not have an appearance of disrepair.** Unhemmed (cut-off) shorts, shirts, or pants, or clothing with slits, rips or holes, even if purchased in that fashion, are prohibited.
- J. Ear piercings are allowed. All other piercings, hairstyles, and other adornments (including tattoos) that draw attention to oneself in a manner that may be disruptive to the educational process are prohibited.
- K. Appropriate undergarments must be worn and not visible.
- L. Students are prohibited from wearing any metal chains, metal spiked apparel, or accessories.
- M. Students are to wear clothing in the manner it is designed to be worn, i.e., clothing worn backwards or inside out is not allowed. Suspenders must be fastened. Shoestrings must be tied.
- N. Students are prohibited from wearing any sign, symbol, logo, or garment, which has become synonymous with any gang, cult, Satanism, or unauthorized club or organizational activity. This also includes any avenue of the promotion of products or activities prohibited by school policy or that is inflammatory and may generate negative feelings among the student body.

Board policy states that students who have questionable or inappropriate dress **will not be allowed to attend class.**

NOTE: At this writing, and due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, guidance from local, state and federal health organizations recommend the use of face masks/coverings. While policies governing the use of face masks/coverings may be subject to change, all face masks/coverings must follow the above guidelines regarding appropriateness for the instructional setting. Additionally, as of this writing, CMS students will not dress out for Physical Education. This is also subject to change. Please note that if, at a later point in the school year, students are required to dress out for PE the above dress code should be followed.

July 2020