

DRESS AND GROOMING STANDARDS

The goal of this dress code is to set clear standards of dress and grooming which promote respect for self, other students, the school and the community. In accord with the primary mission of Milford High School, which is to educate, the standards listed below will provide increased opportunities for students to pursue an education in a safe, professional learning environment that is free of unnecessary distractions.

Clothing worn by students is expected to be clean, neat and appropriate for school. Dress and grooming are expected to be free of distractions to the educational climate and must not endanger the health or safety of students or staff.

1. Upper garments, clothing, jewelry, book bags or other personal articles, which contain, promote, glorify or refer to:

Alcohol, drugs, tobacco, sexually suggestive contents, profane or lewd symbols or slogans, gangs*, and/or groups anti-social** or harassing, violence, death, suicide, gore and/or blood shall not be worn or displayed. This also applies to words or symbols written on skin, book and book covers, etc.
2. Students are to wear clothes that fit. Clothing should be free of rips, tears, or holes.
3. “Dog collars,” leashes, spiked bracelets and waist chains are not to be worn or carried. Body piercing adornments are not to be extreme*****, distracting*** or interconnected.
4. Extreme*****, or distracting*** makeup is not permitted. This includes face painting.
5. No outdoor type coats, parkas or similar outerwear is to be worn or carried during the school day. This outerwear must be stored in assigned lockers.
6. No hats, sunglasses, caps or other types of head coverings may be worn inside the building or carried during the school day. This outerwear must be stored in assigned lockers.
7. Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Safety is the primary consideration.

Upper Garments:

- A. Clothing of see-through material/clothing in which undergarments are visible is not allowed.

- B. These garments must have sleeves. Necklines should prevent exposure of the chest or any undergarments.
- C. The length of the garment should be such that when arms are fully raised, no skin and/or lower undergarments are exposed between the upper and lower garments.

Lower Garments:

- D. All shorts, skirts (including slits), culottes and skorts must reach mid-thigh.****
- E. No leggings/tights may be worn unless covered with a top reaching at least mid-thigh.****
- F. No biker pants or shorts or nylon Umbro-type shorts may be worn.
- G. Lower garments are to be worn at waist level. The droop look is unacceptable.

Undergarments are not to be exposed at any time.

Definitions

- * Gangs are defined as a group of people who have common goals, philosophies, dress and action, whose strength is found in intimidation, numbers involved and anti-social/unlawful activities.
- ** Anti-social behavior is defined as any act(s) by an individual or group that could be interpreted as insulting, demeaning, degrading or personally defamatory. Any or all of these behaviors negatively impact school climate and stifles our mission.
- *** Distracting is defined as to draw away the mind, attention, etc. and to confuse, disturb and/or bewilder.
- **** Mid-thigh is defined as the point on the thigh that the fingertips reach.
- ***** Extreme is a matter of degree, depicting much more than usual and approaching an immoderate, excessive, radical or fanatical appearance.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the above dress code will be considered to provide for special events and to promote school spirit during these approved times. Students and/or sponsors must apply in writing and obtain signed permission from the principal at least 48 hours prior to the activity.

Consequences

Failure to comply with the dress code will result in the following action:

1. Students violating the dress code will need to have someone bring them a change of clothes, seek permission from a parent/guardian to leave school to change clothes and count the missed time as “unexcused,” or spend the school day in the in-school suspension room.
2. Further violations beyond the first offense by the same student will be considered insubordination and will result in further consequences beyond those listed above.
3. Flagrant and/or repeated intentional violations of this dress code will result in immediate administrative action that may result in suspension of up to 10 days, parent conference and/or possible recommendation to the Superintendent for expulsion from Milford High School.