

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Agawam Public Schools strives to provide an environment focused on instruction and learning. Appropriate student dress has a positive impact on student learning, student behavior, and the overall educational environment.

All students are required to be dressed in a manner that does not interfere with the health, safety, and welfare of themselves or other students. Students' dress should be appropriate for a working environment and conducive to learning as interpreted by the school building administration. Clothing and grooming habits should not be detrimental to students' health and safety and should be weather appropriate.

Dress that distracts/disrupts the educational process and the mission of the school is prohibited. Students may not dress in scantily clad attire such as halter tops, excessively short skirts, half or mesh shirts, or shirts that expose the midriff area. Students may wear loose fitting shorts, but bathing suits and short shorts are prohibited. Tank tops should not be low cut or excessively open.

To ensure student safety, appropriate footwear must be worn and should not damage floors. Outdoor apparel (jackets, coats, and hats) will be stored in lockers and classrooms during the school day except in unusual circumstances. Apparel that carries offensive or violent messages is not allowed. Accessories that create a danger to self or others are not allowed.

Students are not permitted to wear hats, bandannas, or other head covering in school. Exemptions will be granted for students who need to wear a head covering because of accepted religious practices or who have a specific medical need as validated by the nurse.

In addition, clothing or accessories found to be disruptive or distracting to the educational process or which has affected the safety of students will be determined a violation of the dress code by the school administration. If a student's attire is in violation of this code, the student will be required to change attire.

The parents/guardians of students who are not appropriately dressed will be notified and asked to bring an acceptable change of clothes to school.

Agawam Public Schools 2004

Approved by School Committee on November 23, 2004, by a vote of 7 - 0.