

BMS STUDENT DRESS CODE

The mission of MCPS is that every student will graduate career and college ready and become a productive, responsible citizen. Our dress code supports this idea and reflects the notion that school is a place of business where learning is the priority. We also recognize that clothing choices are a very personal matter and a way that our students express themselves, reflect their individual personalities, and exercise their freedom. However, we also must balance individual freedom with maintaining an environment that facilitates respect, learning, and student safety. While we respect the individuality of each student, there are certain clothing items that are considered inappropriate attire for school.

(From the MCPS Student Code of Conduct) Wearing of clothes, jewelry, other apparel and/or decals that advocate violence, alcohol and other drug use and/or distribution; that represent gang activity and/or membership; that advertise obscenities; or that reflect adversely on persons due to race, gender, creed, national origin, physical, emotional, or intellectual abilities; or that would cause disruption to the learning environment at any school. Students shall not at school, on school property, or at school activities wear or have in their possession any written material that is racially divisive. Examples include clothing, articles, material or publications or any item that denotes Ku Klux Klan, Aryan Nation-White Supremacy, Black Power, Neo-Nazi, or any hate group, or Confederate flags or articles. This list is not intended to be all inclusive.

Additionally, students should adhere to the following guidelines regarding clothing and attire:

- Tops must cover the torso from one armpit across to the other armpit and down to the waist so that the stomach is covered. Tops must have shoulder straps that are at least two inches wide.
- Shorts must cover four inches in length of the upper thigh. Skirts and dresses should be at least mid-thigh in length.
- Clothing should not be see-through, excessively revealing, or show private areas of the anatomy. Examples of such clothing includes sagging pants, cut-out “muscle” shirts, spaghetti strap shirts, and halter tops.
- Hats, hoods, bandanas, or other head coverings should not be worn inside the building, unless worn for religious or medical reasons.
- Sunglasses should not be worn inside the building.
- T-shirts, or other clothing, that display messages or symbols that are considered to be inappropriate, offensive, distracting, or in any way disruptive of the educational process should not be worn.
- Students should not wear pajamas, lounge wear, or house slippers.
- Shoes must be worn at all times in and around the building.
- Coats and jackets are not to be worn during the school day and should be secured in the student’s locker.