

## Students

### Student Dress

In order to maintain an environment conducive to the educational process, the Board of Education prohibits the following from wear during the academic school day:

- a. Clothing considered to be outerwear will be kept in lockers, coat closets or cubbies during regular school hours.
- b. Only head coverings worn as part of a students' religious practice are allowed.
- c. Items disallowed in a. and b. above must be secured in the student's locker or designated storage area before school starts. Items not stored will be confiscated by the Principal or his/her designee.
- d. Footwear will be safe and appropriate, as defined in Board of Education Regulations.
- e. Only prescription eyewear is allowed (clear or photo-gradient).
- f. Only belt buckles 2" x 3" or less are allowed.
- g. Any item that may be used as a weapon or which may present a safety hazard to the student, other students, or staff is not allowed.
- h. Attire or accessories may not be offensive, as defined in Board of Education Regulations.
- i. Clothing (shirts) must cover the abdomen, chest, and undergarments.
- j. Clothing may not be transparent or see-through.
- k. Clothing (shorts, skirts) must cover the mid-thigh and undergarments.
- l. If permitted by the school administration, backpacks and/or book bags may be carried between classes, but shall not obstruct safe passage in the classroom or in the corridors.
- m. Pants and shirts will be appropriately sized, and should not exceed more than two sizes larger than the student's physical size would require.

With the exception of students enrolled in programs at Woodland and Synergy, all students will be required to wear a school uniform in order to promote important educational objectives and interests as identified in the accompanying Regulation.

Students who fail to comply with Board policy and regulations concerning student dress and applicable uniform policy will be subject to school discipline up to and including expulsion in accordance with the Board's policy on student discipline.

(cf. 5145.53 – Gender Identity and Expression (Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth))  
(cf. 6114.7 – Safe Schools)

**Students**

**Student Dress, (continued)**

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EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
East Hartford, Connecticut

## Students

### Student Dress

The Board of Education has determined that reasonable regulation of school attire, including the implementation of a school uniform, can further important educational interests including:

- (1) Reducing distraction and loss of self-esteem caused by teasing or competition over clothing;
- (2) Providing an environment where students can focus more on learning;
- (3) Enhancing school safety by making it harder to conceal weapons or contraband;
- (4) Creating a greater sense of community amongst the students;
- (5) Preparing students for the future roles in the professional workplace;
- (6) Creating an atmosphere reflecting seriousness of purpose about education;
- (7) Presenting a more positive image to the community; and
- (8) Minimizing disruption from wearing inappropriate clothing or possessing inappropriate items at school.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children's dress conforms to requirements set forth below. The health, safety and education of the child must be the concern of every parent/guardian. It is the recommendation of professional school personnel that parents/guardians hold their children to the highest standard in regards to school attire.

In order to maintain an environment conducive to the educational process, the Board of Education prohibits the following from wear during the academic school day:

- a. Coats, jackets, or other attire normally worn as outerwear. Outerwear includes: coats, jackets, windbreakers, nylon pullovers, down vests, and other clothing the administration deems inappropriate. Such clothing or outerwear shall not be worn, carried, or kept in the classroom during regular school hours except on the elementary level where it shall be kept in cubbies, closets or storage areas.
- b. Head coverings of any kind, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, masks, headbands, visors, kerchiefs, athletic sweatbands, hats, caps or hoods. Approved coverings worn as part of a student's religious practice or belief shall not be prohibited under this policy. Head coverings shall not be worn, carried, hung on belts or around the neck, or kept in the classroom during regular school hours, except on the elementary level, where it shall be kept in cubbies, closets, or storage areas.
- c. Items a. and b. above must be secured in the student's locker or in a designated storage area, before school starts. Items not stored will be confiscated by the Principal or his/her designee and kept until such time as he/she feels it is appropriate to return them.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

- d. Footwear which mars floors, causes damage to floors, excessive noise or is a safety hazard including but not limited to, flip-flops, and spike heels. Footwear must have a rubber or other non-marking sole.
- e. Sunglasses, whether worn or carried or eyewear that is not medically necessary.
- f. Oversized metal belt buckles and all metal belts or belts featuring metal other than the buckle such as chains hanging off the belt or loops.
- g. Spiked or studded bracelets, brass knuckles, oversized or multi-finger rings, belts or any other article of attire with spikes or studs attached, or any other clothing item that may present a safety hazard to the student, other students, or staff, or disrupt the learning environment.
- h. Attire or accessories which contain overly offensive or disruptive writing or pictures likely to unduly disrupt the educational environment, or which constitute “fighting words”, gang colors, signage, etc., or which depict the logo or emblems of drugs, tobacco products or alcoholic beverages; or attire or accessories that encourage the use of such products.
- i. Shirts and/or blouses which reveal the abdomen, chest, or undergarments.
- j. See-through clothing, tank tops, spaghetti straps or strapless.
- k. Shorts, miniskirts, or pants which reveal the upper thigh or undergarments. Spandex garments are allowed only if they are covered by shorts or skirts.
- l. Pants that reveal any portion of the torso or the undergarments, or that are more than one size larger or one size smaller than the student’s physical size would require. Clothing worn “too tight” is unacceptable in a school setting.
- m. If permitted by the school administration, backpacks and/or book bags may be carried between classes, but shall not obstruct safe passage in the classroom or in the corridors.

In addition, with the exception of students enrolled in programs at Willowbrook, Woodland and Synergy, all students will be required to wear an approved school uniform.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

**The designated uniform for East Hartford High School and CIBA shall be as follows:**

1. Tops:

Short- or long- sleeved collared (polo) shirts from approved vendor in approved school colors with the school logo. All shirts must be either tucked into skirts or pants or extend no lower than the top of the pants pocket (rear). All optional clothing choices (see 1a below) must be supplied by the vendor with administrative approval. Approved vendor tops may not be altered in their appearance (i.e. braided, tied).

- a. Students will only be permitted to wear optional clothing options/accessories from the approved vendor. The optional clothing must be worn over the polo, oxford, or performance jersey (long or short sleeve): Additional top options will be determined by school administration and provided by the approved vendor. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtleneck shirts; and/or fleece tops.
- b. Approved optional clothing/accessories may be worn in any combination or “layer” based on student preference/climate conditions.

2. Bottoms:

- a. For boys and girls: casual or dress pants in vendor approved style sized to fit the student in solid colors of black or khaki. (All other types of pants are not permitted.) All pants must be worn at the top of the hips. Belts are strongly encouraged and must be the colors of black, white, gray, brown, tan, or school colors.
- b. For girls: skirts or jumpers that are not more than 3” above the knee, sized to fit the student in solid black or khaki may be worn. Capri-type pants in solid black or khaki may also be worn. Tight fitting or stretch skirts, tight fitting or stretch jumpers, or tight fitting or stretch capri-type pants are not permitted.
- c. Boys and girls: solid black or khaki shorts may be worn but must be appropriately sized. Shorts that are too short (3” above the knee) or too long (below the kneecap) are not permitted.

3. Optional clothing options/accessories from approved vendor: Additional top options designated by school administration and provided by the approved vendor will be permitted for students to purchase and wear in school. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtleneck shirts; fleece tops; and oxford shirts worn with or without a tie.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

**The designated uniform for East Hartford High School and CIBA shall be as follows:**  
(continued)

4. Footwear: Students will wear shoes, sneakers or boots. Each school's Student Handbook will determine which types of footwear within these categories are acceptable. (Spiked, platform and slippers, flip-flops, slides, or other athletic-type footwear are not allowed.) Footwear must have a rubber or other non-marking sole.
5. Compliance: In all matters relating to student compliance with the dress code, the school principal and his/her designees shall have the final determination on whether a student is in compliance with the school uniform policy.
6. Dress Down Days/Special Recognition: The principal or his/her designees may allow for special occasions or to recognize academic, athletic, or special events, activities and achievements by allowing exceptions to the daily uniform requirement, i.e. a special fundraising activity or honor roll, athletic contest, etc.
7. Field Trips: Students are required to comply with the school uniform on field trips unless otherwise determined by the principal or his/her designee.
8. Accessories: Distracting, detracting, oversized, offensive, or divisive jewelry, garments, and belt buckles are not permitted. The principal or his/her designee will determine individual and specific items which conflict with school uniform purpose.

**The designated uniform for East Hartford Middle School shall be as follows:**

1. Tops:

Short - or long - sleeved collared (polo) shirts from approved vendor in approved school colors with the school logo. All shirts must be either tucked into skirts or pants or extend no lower than the top of the pants pocket (rear). All optional clothing choices (See 1a below) must be supplied by the vendor with administrative approval. Approved vendor tops may not be altered in their appearance (i.e. braided, tied).

- a. Students will only be permitted to wear optional clothing options/accessories from the approved vendor: Additional top options will be determined by school administration and provided by the approved vendor. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtleneck shirts; and/or fleece tops.
- b. Approved optional clothing/accessories may be worn in any combination or “layer” based on student preference/climate conditions.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

#### The designated uniform for East Hartford Middle School shall be as follows: (continued)

2. Bottoms:
  - a. For boys and girls: casual or dress pants in vendor approved style sized to fit the student in solid colors of black or khaki. Bottoms made from stretch or denim material will not be permitted.) All pants must be worn at the top of the hips. Students are strongly encouraged to wear a belt.
  - b. For girls: skirts or jumpers that are not more than 3” above the knee, sized to fit the student in solid black or khaki may be worn. Capri-type pants in solid black or khaki may also be worn. Tight fitting or stretch skirts, tight fitting or stretch jumpers, or tight fitting or stretch capri-type pants are not permitted.
  - c. Boys and girls: solid black or khaki shorts may be worn but must be appropriately sized. Shorts that are too short (3” above the knee) or too long (below the kneecap) are not permitted.
3. Optional clothing options/accessories from approved vendor: Additional top options designated by school administration and provided by the approved vendor will be permitted for students to purchase and wear in school. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtlenecks; or fleece tops.
4. Footwear: dress shoes, sneakers, or boots only. The school’s Student Handbook will determine which types of footwear within these categories are acceptable. (Spiked, platform and slippers, flip-flops, slides, or other athletic-type footwear are not allowed.) Footwear must have a rubber or other non-marking sole.
5. Compliance: In all matters relating to student compliance with the dress code, the school principal and his/her designees shall have the final determination on whether a student is in compliance with the school uniform policy.
6. Dress Down Days/Special Recognition: The principal or his/her designees may allow for special occasions or to recognize academic, athletic, or special events, activities and achievements by allowing exceptions to the daily uniform requirement, i.e. a special fundraising activity or honor roll, athletic contest, etc.
7. Field Trips: Students are required to comply with the school uniform on field trips unless otherwise determined by the principal or his/her designee.
8. Accessories: Distracting, detracting, oversized, offensive, or divisive jewelry, garments, and belt buckles are not permitted. The principal or his/her designee will determine individual and specific items which conflict with school uniform purpose.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

#### The designated uniform for elementary schools shall be as follows:

1. Tops:

Short - or long - sleeved collared (polo) shirts from approved vendor in approved district colors with the district logo. All shirts must be either tucked into skirts or pants or extend no lower than the top of the pants pocket (rear). All optional clothing choices (See 1a below) must be supplied by the vendor with administrative approval. Shirts worn under approved uniform tops must be solid white or black. Approved vendor tops may not be altered in their appearance (i.e. braided, tied).

- a. Students will only be permitted to wear optional clothing options/accessories from the approved vendor: Additional top options will be determined by school administration and provided by the approved vendor. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtleneck shirts; and/or fleece tops.
- b. Approved optional clothing/accessories may be worn in any combination or “layer” based on student preference/climate conditions.

2. Bottoms:

- a. For boys and girls: casual or dress pants in approved vendor style sized to fit the student in solid colors of black or khaki. (All other types of pants are not permitted.) All pants must be worn at the top of the hips. Students are strongly encouraged to wear a belt.
- b. For girls: skirts or jumpers that are not more than 3” above the knee, sized to fit the student in solid black or khaki may be worn. Capri-type pants in solid black or khaki may also be worn. Tight fitting or stretch skirts, tight fitting or stretch jumpers, or tight fitting or stretch capri-type pants are not permitted.
- c. Boys and girls: solid black or khaki shorts may be worn but must be appropriately sized. Shorts that are too short (3” above the knee) or too long (below the kneecap) are not permitted.

3. Optional clothing options/accessories from approved vendor: Additional top options designated by school administration and provided by the approved vendor will be permitted for students to purchase and wear in school. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtlenecks; or fleece tops.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

#### The designated uniform for elementary schools shall be as follows: (continued)

4. Optional clothing for elementary school gym days: Students will be permitted to wear black or gray sweatpants on gym days only. Students are required to adhere to the requirements set forth above for “bottoms” on non-gym days.
5. Footwear: dress shoes, sneakers or boots only. The Elementary Parent/Student Handbook will determine which types of footwear within these categories are acceptable. (Spiked, platform and slippers, flip-flops, slides, or other athletic-type footwear are not allowed.) Footwear must have a rubber or other non-marking sole.
6. Compliance: In all matters relating to student compliance with the dress code, the school principal and his/her designees shall have the final determination on whether a student is in compliance with the district uniform policy.
7. Dress Down Days/Special Recognition: The principal or his/her designees may allow for special occasions or to recognize academic, athletic, or special events, activities and achievements by allowing exceptions to the daily uniform requirement, i.e. a special fundraising activity or honor roll, athletic contest, etc.
8. Field Trips: Students are required to comply with the school uniform on field trips unless otherwise determined by the principal or his/her designee.
9. Accessories: Distracting, detracting, oversized, offensive, or divisive jewelry, necklaces, garments, and belt buckles are not permitted. The principal or his/her designee will determine individual and specific items which conflict with school uniform purpose.

#### The designated uniform for the Grade 6-8 theme based school at Sunset Ridge shall be as follows:

1. Tops:

Short - or long - sleeved collared (polo) shirts from approved vendor in navy blue or white with the school name (logo). All shirts must be either tucked into skirts or pants or extend no lower than the top of the pants pocket (rear). All optional clothing choices (See 1a below) must be supplied by the vendor with administrative approval. Shirts worn under approved uniform tops must be solid white or black. Approved vendor tops may not be altered in their appearance (i.e. braided, tied).

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

**The designated uniform for the Grade 6-8 theme based school at Sunset Ridge shall be as follows:** (continued)

1. Tops: (continued)
  - a. Students will only be permitted to wear optional clothing options/accessories from the approved vendor: Additional top options will be determined by school administration and provided by the approved vendor. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtleneck shirts; and/or fleece tops.
  - b. Approved optional clothing/accessories may be worn in any combination or “layer” based on student preference/climate conditions.
2. Bottoms:
  - a. For boys and girls: casual or dress pants in approved vendor style sized to fit the student in solid color of navy blue, khaki, blue or black. (All other types of pants are not permitted.) All pants must be worn at the top of the hips. Students are strongly encouraged to wear a belt of black or brown color only.
  - b. For girls: skirts or jumpers that are not more than 3” above the knee, sized to fit the student in solid navy blue, khaki, blue or black may be worn. Capri-type pants in solid khaki may also be worn. Tight fitting or stretch skirts, tight fitting or stretch jumpers, or tight fitting or stretch capri-type pants are not permitted.
  - c. Boys and girls: solid navy blue, khaki, blue or black shorts may be worn but must be appropriately sized. Shorts that are too short (3” above the knee) or too long (below the kneecap) are not permitted.
3. Optional clothing options/accessories from approved vendor: Additional top options designated by school administration and provided by the approved vendor will be permitted for students to purchase and wear in school. Options may include, but are not limited to sweaters – sleeveless, long sleeve or cardigan; mock turtlenecks; or fleece tops.
4. Footwear: dress shoes, sneakers or boots only. The school’s Parent/Student Handbook will determine which types of footwear within these categories are acceptable. (Spiked, platform and slippers, flip-flops, slides, or other athletic-type footwear are not allowed.) Footwear must have a rubber or other non-marking sole.
5. Compliance: In all matters relating to student compliance with the dress code, the school principal and his/her designees shall have the final determination on whether a student is in compliance with the school uniform policy.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

**The designated uniform for the Grade 6-8 theme based school at Sunset Ridge shall be as follows:** (continued)

6. Dress Down Days/Special Recognition: The principal or his/her designees may allow for special occasions or to recognize academic, athletic, or special events, activities and achievements by allowing exceptions to the daily uniform requirement (i.e. a special fundraising activity or artistic achievement, etc.).
7. Field Trips: Students are required to comply with the school uniform on field trips unless otherwise determined by the principal or his/her designee.
8. Accessories: Distracting, detracting, oversized, offensive, or divisive jewelry, necklaces, garments, and belt buckles are not permitted. The principal or his/her designee will determine individual and specific items which conflict with school uniform purpose.

### Religious and Health Accommodations

Where the bona fide religious beliefs or health needs of a student conflict with the school attire policy, the schools will provide reasonable accommodation. Any student desiring accommodation shall notify their school principal in writing of the requested accommodation and the factual basis for the request. Approved coverings worn as part of a student's bona fide religious practices or beliefs shall not be prohibited under this policy.

### Compliance

School administrators and teachers are encouraged to use positive reinforcement to obtain compliance with school attire requirements. However, when a student fails to comply with the school attire policy, discipline is appropriate. The following discipline procedures shall apply:

#### Woodland and Synergy Programs:

- First Offense:** Removal from class with a chance to correct and return to class. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. (If unable to correct, they will not be allowed to return to class.)
- Second Offense:** After-school detention. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.
- Third Offense:** In-school suspension. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Clothing must be corrected.
- Subsequent Offenses:** Out-of-school suspension. Written notification to parent/guardian of the incident. Upon return to school, clothing must be corrected.

## Students

### Student Dress (continued)

#### Compliance (continued)

**High School, CIBA and Middle School:** Compliance with the uniform policy at the High School, CIBA, and Middle School will be delineated in the Administrative Guidelines contained in the Student/Parent Handbooks. \*Students not in compliance will not be permitted to attend class\*

#### Grade 6-8

#### Theme Based School and

#### Elementary Schools

**First Offense:** Verbal warning with a chance to correct. Written and/or phone notification to parent/guardian of the incident.

**Second Offense:** Verbal warning and removal from class. Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.

**Third Offense:** Detention. Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Suspension with parent/guardian conference. Written notification to parent/guardian. Clothing must be corrected.

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