

2023-2024 LPSS DRESS CODE GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

In accordance with **La. R.S. 17:416.7**, the Lafayette Parish School Board has adopted a standard dress code as described below. The guidelines are designed to:

- Promote school safety
- Minimize distractions and disruptions based on personal appearance, grooming, hygiene, and attire.
- Prevent clothing, jewelry, and general appearance that are health or safety hazards.
- Prevent clothing styles that are suggestive, indecent, or inappropriately fitted.
- Foster an attitude of respect for authority, improve morale, and prepare students to enter a workforce that often has rules regarding dress, conduct, and appearance.

When it is determined that a student's clothing does not comply with the dress code, a parent/legal guardian shall be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothes to school. While awaiting the change of clothes, the student may be required to (a) wait in the office; (b) attend ISS; (c) go to class; or (d) any other option deemed necessary or appropriate by an administrator. Those who fail to comply or repeatedly violate the district dress code shall be subject to disciplinary action. Clarification regarding the discipline for improper dress should be directed to the school administrator.

VERIFY UNIFORMS

Parents should not rely on stores for information regarding Lafayette Parish uniforms. If a parent is uncertain, please refer to the district or your child's school website before purchasing.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Fit-

- A student's clothing should not be excessively tight or large.
- Parents should buy clothing that fits appropriately and can be worn without exposing undergarments.
- Clothing should have no exaggerated fit, which would promote sagging.
- Clothes so small that mid-drifts are exposed are not allowed.

Style-

- A student's clothing should be free from holes, frayed edges, or tears.
- Clothing should not be see-through.

Content-

- No clothing should contain anything that would be offensive in nature to any population of students. Clothing may not promote anything LPSS discipline policy prohibits (tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or violence).
- Clothing or grooming that is distracting to the educational environment will not be permitted.

Cold Weather Attire-Parents are encouraged to have at least one set of long uniform pants for students for inclement and cold weather. District staff will consider the following factors before announcing a "cold weather attire day": sustained temperatures, precipitation, wind chill, etc. Please check the LPSS Website Homepage at <https://www.lpssonline.com> for confirmation by 4:30 pm the day before. Cold weather attire is limited to:

- **Long pants-** jeans, solid-colored sweatpants, and corduroys will be allowed. Non-uniform shorts, leggings, yoga, and pajama pants are not allowed.
- All other dress code regulations remain the same, including uniform shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, shoes, etc.

School Spirit Attire-

- All clothing worn must represent the school the student is currently enrolled in and attending.
- Students may not wear clothing from any other public, private, or parochial school.
- Students can purchase and wear school-issued and designated school spirit attire (t-shirts) instead of the standard uniform polo shirt as a student option for daily wear (Monday-Friday).
- Schools may sell hoodless school spirit attire garments to be worn over uniforms or spirit shirts.

Final Decision-

- The principal or their designee shall have the final decision on all dress code regulations, appropriate fit, and style within the established guidelines as approved by the Board.

PRINCIPAL'S DISCRETION TO MAKE UNIFORM EXCEPTIONS

Principals may declare spirit days and allow students to wear school spirit shirts or dress-up days (such as when school pictures are scheduled). Principals may determine guidelines for belts and the tucking of shirts. Principals may also allow students to wear other uniforms such as Boy Scout, Girl Scout, band, chorus, etc. Additional questions about uniforms should be referred first to the school principal. The superintendent must approve special dress days, where fundraising monies are collected.

DRESS CODE IN SPECIAL CLASSES

Students must follow the rules of appropriate dress as dictated by the needs of special classes (i.e., physical education, industrial arts, consumer science, etc.)

EXCEPTIONS FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS

Requests for religious exceptions to the dress code must be made to the Office of Child Welfare & Attendance, which will explore the basis for the exception and determine if the exception is warranted. An individual requesting an exception bears the burden of demonstrating the following:

- The individual's legitimate religious belief conflicts with the Lafayette Parish School System student dress code.
- The dress or grooming of the student is a documented expression of their religious belief.
- The dress or grooming beliefs are rooted in religion and required by their religious practice.
- The individual has sincerely held the belief that enforcement of the student dress code will have a coercive effect that will operate to prevent their exercise of those religious beliefs.

Any student requesting an exception from the student uniform dress code for religious reasons must produce to the Office of Child Welfare and Attendance documentation establishing the legitimate existence of the religion and evidence of the grooming or dress as rooted in religion and as necessary while in school. The Office of Child Welfare and Attendance may deny a request if, in their judgment, the requested exception poses a danger to the student requesting the exception or to any student attending school in the system. All requests for exceptions must be made prior to any actions that would otherwise be a violation of the student uniform dress code.

BOOK BAGS/PURSES/LUNCH BAGS

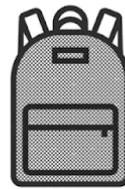
Student Clear Bag Guidelines

BACKPACKS

PreK-12: Must have a clear or mesh backpack.



FULLY CLEAR ONLY-
COLORED TRANSPARENT
NOT ALLOWED



SOLID COLOR MESH- NO PRINTS.

STUDENTS MAY CARRY A BULLETPROOF BACKPACK. CLEAR BULLETPROOF BACKPACKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ONLINE.

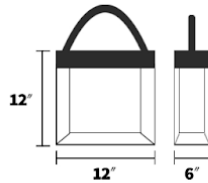
PURSES, HANDBAGS, AND LUNCH BAGS

PreK-12: Non-transparent lunch bags may not be larger than approximately 9" x 6" x 5".

Non-Transparent privacy bags cannot exceed 5.5" x 7.5". All other bags that exceed that size must be clear and cannot be larger than 12" x 6" x 12".



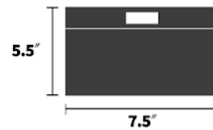
1 GALLON CLEAR
STORAGE BAG



CLEAR TOTE: PLASTIC,
VINYL OR PVC
NOT TO EXCEED
12" X 6" X 12"



NON-TRANSPARENT
LUNCH BAGS
NOT TO EXCEED
9" X 6" X 5"



NON-TRANSPARENT PRIVACY BAG
WITH OR WITHOUT STRAP
NOT TO EXCEED
5.5" X 7.5"

EXTRACURRICULAR BAGS AND EQUIPMENT

PreK-12: Extracurricular equipment bags do not have to be transparent and must be stored in an assigned area as designated by each school immediately upon arrival on campus.



INSTRUMENT BAGS



DUFFEL/GYM BAGS



DRAWSTRING BAGS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (Prek-5th Grade)

IDENTIFICATION

School IDs must always be visible while on campus, with the picture facing outward. They must be worn on a lanyard around the neck or clipped to the shirt collar. IDs must have the national and local suicide hotline phone numbers printed on them in accordance with **La. R.S. 17:282.4**.

INSIGNIA

Any combination of clothing and jewelry that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang-related is not permitted. Discriminatory, obscene, or drug/alcohol related emblems, logos symbols, jewelry signs, speech, or literature that is discriminatory, inflammatory, or derogatory toward any sex, race, nationality, creed, political or philosophical group, is obscene or contains profanity, or makes reference to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are not permitted.

SHIRTS

Allowed

- A collared polo-style shirt with short or long sleeves only in red, white, or navy blue
- Polo-style or uniform-style dresses in red, white, or navy blue
- Students can purchase and wear school-issued and designated school spirit attire (t-shirts) instead of the standard uniform polo shirt as a student option for daily wear (Monday-Friday)

Not Allowed

- Large emblems, logos, or decorations.
- Collarless polo-style shirts
- Sleeveless polo-style shirts
- Colors other than solid red, white, or navy blue

BOTTOMS

Allowed

- All bottoms will be khaki or navy blue
- Boys-uniform style pants or shorts
- Girls-uniform style pants, shorts, capris, skirts, skorts, or jumpers
- All bottoms must fit at the waist

Not Allowed

- Cargo pockets
- Sagging
- Fitting below the waist
- Visible undergarments or any part of the midsection
- Gym shorts, leggings, jeans, jeggings, joggers, and sweatpants
- Shorts, skirts, skorts, and jumpers shorter than 4 inches above the knee

JACKETS/COATS/SWEATERS/SWEATSHIRTS

Outerwear-is considered cold-weather apparel to keep students warm on the way to and from school and during outdoor recess.

Allowed

- A jacket or coat of any color or print that fully unzips or unbuttons completely from the neckline to the waistline
- All outerwear in elementary schools shall be a hoodless garment
- Outerwear may be worn during the instructional setting if it is a solid red, white, or navy blue and hoodless. Outerwear must remain open, not zipped or buttoned.

Not Allowed

- Hoods on any type of outerwear
- Outerwear other than solid red, white, or navy blue is not allowed to be worn in the building after arrival unless transitioning to an outdoor class
- Blankets, snuggies, onesies, etc..
- Full-length jackets/coats, commonly referred to as “trench” coats or “dusters”

Indoor Wear-is considered a solid, hoodless garment designed to keep students warm during the school day while inside the school building.

Allowed

- Solid, hoodless sweatshirt, hoodless sweater, or hoodless jacket
- Approved colors shall be solid red, white, or navy blue
- Uniform shirts or approved school spirit shirts must be worn under indoor wear
- Schools are permitted to sell approved hoodless school spirit attire

Not Allowed

- Hoods of any type
- Large emblems, logos, or decorations
- Hoodless garments representing any other public, private, or parochial school
- Denim
- Button-up shirts may not be worn as indoor wear on top of uniform shirts or spirit wear
- Colors other than solid red, white, or navy blue

SHOES/TIGHTS/SOCKS

Allowed

- Shoes must be matching and worn at all times
- Non-skid/tennis shoes are preferable
- Closed-toe and closed-back shoes
- Socks are required
- Socks and tights must be school appropriate

Not Allowed

- Open-toe or open-back
- Heeled shoes
- Boots
- Sandals, slingbacks, slides, flip-flops, slippers, crocs, or foam runner style
- Shoes with wheels, noisemakers, and hanging tags that pose a safety concern

HEADWEAR

Allowed

- School appropriate knit caps, sweatbands, and earmuffs may be worn outside only

Not Allowed

- Any type of hood, hat, or brimmed caps in the building or bus
- Bandanas, bandana wraps, or any bandana prints

JEWELRY/BODY DECORATIONS

Allowed

- Stud earring
- Belts

Not Allowed

- Painted faces or other distracting makeup
- Hanging or dangling earrings
- Artificial or acrylic nails
- Tongue, nose, or other piercings
- Offensive or vulgar tattoos (permanent or temporary) must be covered at all times
- Oversized belt buckles that present a safety concern (i.e., large buckles with spikes, rivets, brads, or any other design/size that may pose a safety concern)

GROOMING

A student will use appropriate grooming that does not present a safety hazard or have the potential to create a campus disruption. Extremes in hairstyles that are deemed distracting to the learning environment are not permitted. Color must naturally occur on people, including the color of extensions and highlights.

MIDDLE (6-8 GRADE)/HIGH SCHOOL (9-12 GRADE)

IDENTIFICATION

School IDs must always be visible while on campus, with the picture facing outward. They must be worn on a lanyard around the neck or clipped to the shirt collar. IDs must have the national and local suicide hotline phone numbers printed on them in accordance with **La. R.S. 17:282.4**

INSIGNIA

Any combination of clothing and jewelry that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang-related is not permitted. Discriminatory, obscene, or drug/alcohol-related emblems, logos, jewelry signs, speech, or literature that is discriminatory, inflammatory, or derogatory toward any sex, race, nationality, creed, political or philosophical group is obscene or contains profanity or makes reference to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are not permitted.

SHIRTS

Allowed

- A collared polo-style shirt with short or long sleeves only in the assigned colors listed (See Solid Colored Shirts section below)
- Students can purchase and wear school-issued and designated school spirit attire (t-shirts) instead of the standard uniform polo shirt as a student option for daily wear (Monday-Friday)
- School extracurricular activities, clubs, and sports t-shirts may be worn on designated days as set forth by the school administrator

Not Allowed

- Large emblems, logos, or decorations
- Collarless polo-style shirts
- Sleeveless polo-style shirts
- Colors other than those designated below (See Solid Colored Shirts section below)

Solid Colored Shirts-

- Middle School-(including David Thibodaux Stem 6-8) solid red, white, or navy blue
- High School-
 - Acadiana High-solid forest green
 - Carencro High-solid navy
 - David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy-solid royal blue or black (9-12 grade)
 - E. J. Sam-school-specific t-shirt purchased at school
 - Lafayette High-solid black
 - Lerosen-specific t-shirt purchased at school
 - Northside High-solid red
 - Ovey Comeaux High-solid navy
 - Southside High-solid gray
 - Early College Academy-follows the dress code of South Louisiana Community College

BOTTOMS

Allowed

- All bottoms will be khaki or navy blue
- Boys-uniform style pants or shorts
- Girls-uniform style pants, shorts, capris, skirts, skorts, or jumpers.
- All bottoms must fit at the waist

Not Allowed

- Cargo pockets
- Sagging
- Fitting below the waist
- Visible undergarments or any part of the midsection
- Gym shorts, leggings, jeans, jeggings, joggers, sweatpants
- Shorts, skirts, skorts, and jumpers shorter than 4 inches above the knee

JACKETS/COATS/SWEATERS/SWEATSHIRTS

Outerwear-is considered cold-weather apparel to keep students warm on the way to and from school and during outdoor recess.

Allowed

- A jacket or coat of any color or print that fully unzips or unbuttons completely from the neckline to the waistline
- All outerwear in middle/high schools shall be a hoodless garment
- Outerwear may be worn during the instructional setting if it is solid, hoodless and in the school's colors listed (See Solid Color Outerwear section below)
- Outerwear must remain open, not zipped or buttoned.

Not Allowed

- Hoods on any type of outerwear
- Outerwear other than designated colors listed is not allowed to be worn in the building after arrival unless transitioning to an outdoor class (See Solid Color Outerwear section below)
- Blankets, snuggies, onesies, etc..
- Full-length jackets/coats, commonly referred to as "trench" coats or "dusters"

Solid Color Outerwear-

- Middle School-(including David Thibodaux Stem 6-8) solid red, white, or navy blue
- High School-
 - Acadiana High-solid forest green
 - Carencro High-solid navy or yellow gold
 - David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy 9th -12-solid royal blue or black
 - E. J. Sam-solid purple or gray
 - Lerosen-solid navy, black or gray
 - Lafayette High-solid black or kelly-green
 - Northside High-solid red or black
 - Ovey Comeaux High-solid red or navy
 - Southside High-solid navy or gray

Indoor wear-a solid, hoodless garment designed to keep students warm during the school day while inside the school building.

Allowed

- Solid, hoodless sweatshirt, hoodless sweater, or hoodless jacket
- Uniform shirts or approved school spirit shirts must be worn under indoor wear
- May wear only the approved solid colors listed (See Solid Color Indoor Wear section below)
- Schools are permitted to sell approved hoodless school spirit attire

Not Allowed

- Hoods of any type
- Large emblems, logos, or decorations
- Hoodless garments representing any other public, private, or parochial school
- Denim
- Button-up shirts may not be worn as indoor wear on top of uniform shirts or spirit wear
- Colors other than those listed (See Solid Color Indoor Wear section below)

Solid Color Indoor Wear-

- Middle School-(including David Thibodaux Stem 6-8) solid red, white, or navy blue
- High School-
 - Acadiana High-solid forest green
 - Carencro High-solid navy or yellow gold
 - David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy 9th -12-solid royal blue or black
 - E. J. Sam-solid purple or gray
 - Lerosen-solid navy, black or gray
 - Lafayette High-solid black or kelly-green
 - Northside High-solid red or black
 - Ovey Comeaux High-solid red or navy
 - Southside High-solid navy or gray

SHOES/TIGHTS/SOCKS

Allowed

- Shoes must be matching and worn at all times
- Non-skid/tennis shoes are preferable
- Closed-toe and closed-back shoes
- Socks are required
- Socks, and tights must be school appropriate

Not Allowed

- Open-toe or open-back
- Sandals, slingbacks, slides, flip-flops, slippers, crocs, or foam runner style
- Shoes with wheels, noisemakers, and hanging tags that pose a safety concern

HEADWEAR

Allowed

- School appropriate knit caps, sweatbands, and earmuffs may be worn outside only

Not Allowed

- Any type of hood, hat, or brimmed caps in the building or bus
- Bandanas, bandana wraps, or any bandana prints

JEWELRY/BODY DECORATIONS

Allowed

Middle School-

- Earring up to the size of a quarter
- Nails up to ¼ inch
- Belts

High School-

- Earrings
- Reasonable Acrylic Nails
- Belts

Not Allowed

Middle/High School-

- Painted faces or other distracting makeup
- Tongue, nose, or other piercings
- Offensive or vulgar tattoos (permanent or temporary) must be covered at all times
- Oversized belt buckles that present a safety concern (i.e., large buckles with spikes, rivets, brads, or any other design/size that may pose a safety concern)

GROOMING

A student will use appropriate grooming that does not present a safety hazard or have the potential to create a campus disruption. Extremes in hairstyles that are deemed distracting to the learning environment are not permitted.

Middle School-

- Color must naturally occur on people, including the color of extensions and highlights.

High School-

- There is no restriction on hair color.