

July 18, 2023

Dear Harrisburg School District,

As we prepare to welcome students back to school on **Monday, August 28th for the 2023-2024 school year**, we wanted to make you aware that we have revised our student dress code, to move away from a school uniform.

It is critically important that all parents and guardians review this new dress code to understand what is and is not acceptable for students to wear. That information is contained in this letter and is posted on our District website at www.HBGSD.us.

This decision was made based on several factors, including the costliness of buying both uniform clothing and casual clothing, student desire to have more choice over what to wear to school, the availability of uniform clothing in all sizes in our area, and students being excluded from school because they didn't come to school wearing a uniform. In a district-wide survey, about 75% of the approximately 1,000 parents and students who responded said they were in favor of moving away from a school uniform.

Many other school districts with similar demographic profiles to Harrisburg that have made this move have not seen increases in student discipline issues as a result of this change, and have found the change has actually made students feel better about attending school.

More details are contained below, but in summary, students may wear their own clothing, but the following are not permitted:

- No hooded shirts or sweatshirts
- No tank tops, halter tops, or spaghetti string tops
- No offensive graphics or images on any clothing
- No sheer, translucent, or lace on the torso
- For pants, no tears or rips on pants above the knee
- No visible undergarments or boxer shorts worn on the outside
- Pants must not be saggy below the waist
- For footwear no crocs, flip-flops, slides, slippers, open-toed shoes or high heels above 1 inch
- No hats, caps, bandannas, sunglasses, visors, and face masks unless medically necessary or for religious reasons.

We also wanted to notify you about a security change for the 2023-24 school year. All visitors will be required to present a valid driver's license or other state-issued identification when arriving at each of our schools and buildings. That will be scanned and checked against the sexual offender database. Visitors who are cleared will receive a printed ID badge that includes their photo, name, and barcode. This process will take less than a minute and should help to increase safety and security in our school.

Thank you for your support and attention to these changes. We will be communicating more back to school information in the coming weeks. We hope you are having a wonderful summer.

Sincerely.

Eric Turman, Superintendent

Tops

Tops may not reveal cleavage and must cover to the waist. Exposed backs, shoulders and midriff are <u>not</u> permitted. Any top that is skin-tight or allows the stomach, cleavage or undergarments to be exposed is not acceptable and not permitted.

| NOT acceptable | | | | |
|---|-------|----|--|--|
| Tank tops | | | | |
| Spaghetti straps/ halter tops | | | | |
| Sheer material that exposes undergarments or skin | | | | |
| Tube Tops/Crop Tops | | CI | | |
| Hooded Tops/Jackets | OLOAK | | | |

Head Wear

Hats, caps, bandannas, sunglasses and visors are <u>not permitted</u> unless medically necessary or for religious reasons.

| Acceptable | NOT acceptable |
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^{**}Face Masks and Face Coverings are NOT Acceptable. (Unless Medically Necessary)

Jeans and Pants

- Jeans and pants with rips/tears are acceptable as long as rips/tears are located <u>at or below</u> the knee. Rips and tears above the knee are acceptable only if skin is **NOT** visible.
- Pants and shorts must be worn above the hip. Undergarments and buttocks must be covered.
- Tear-away pants (snap pants) are not permitted.
- Pajama pants (and tops) are not permitted.

Yoga Pants, Jeggings, and Leggings are acceptable; however, they cannot be sheer or see through and the buttocks must be covered. NO sagging pants/shorts permitted



Footwear

- Flip-flops and high heeled shoes (heels greater than one inch) are not acceptable for K-12 students
- Shoe laces must be tied
- Shoes must be worn at all times
- Slippers/Slides/Crocs are not permitted



Shorts/Skirts/Dresses

- Boxer shorts worn as outerwear are not permitted.
- Shorts, skirts, and rompers should be no shorter than **3 inches** above the top of the knee when standing. Dresses with tube top/spaghetti straps are not acceptable.
- Cut-off pants or shorts are permitted as long as they are of appropriate length.

