

MAHS STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Middletown Area School District believes that pupils perform at their best in classroom situations if a standard for good grooming is followed. The value of a clean and neat appearance cannot be over-stated. In our professional judgment well-dressed and well-groomed students are also a well-disciplined group of students. **Appropriate dress is that which is not offensive.** All students must comply with the following regulations.

- Tank tops will be permitted if they meet the “three finger rule.” The tank top strap must be as wide as three fingers on a student’s hand in order to be considered legal. Off the shoulder tops are not permitted. Shoulder blades must be covered. Males - no tank tops or open sleeve jerseys.
- All students shall be neat and clean in order that a healthy and educationally conducive atmosphere can be maintained.
- Students whose hair styles create hazards to laboratories, shops and physical education classes must provide head coverings in such classes to ensure safety.
- Excessive make-up or face art should not be worn.
- No footwear should be worn that is a hazard in the shop areas, labs, physical education areas, and in marching band (i.e. flip-flops, etc.). Appropriate foot covering must be worn for health and safety reasons.
- Clothing that is fringed, frayed, torn, or dragging on the floor and considered unsafe is not permitted. Pants and skirts may not have holes or tears above the knees that reveal skin or undergarments. *The school will not provide anything to cover holes on pants. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.
- Undergarments should not be visible. Pants must be worn at the waist.
- No slogans, pictures, words, jewelry or patches are permitted if they are a distraction to the educational process. This includes double meaning slogans/symbols, tobacco, drug and alcohol slogans/advertisements, ethnic slurs, sexual references, or satanic references, cults, gangs, weapons, etc.
- No clothing should be worn too tight, frayed, or immodest as to be distracting to the educational environment. This includes: thermal underwear as an outer garment, bare midriffs or torsos, and see-through attire. Capri pants must reach mid-calf. Clothing that resembles pajamas is not permitted. The length of female skirts must be no shorter than 3” above the top of the knee cap.
- Shorts are not permitted from November 1 to March 31, except for physical education classes (as required). Shorts should be no shorter than 3” above the top of the knee cap.
- No bare feet.
- Inappropriate and potentially hazardous jewelry (i.e. spiked wristbands/necklaces and chains) and decorations are not permitted. This includes bandannas, scarves, and other excessive hair decorations, a glove or gloves, excessive rings, etc.
- Headgear of any kind is not permitted.
- Radios, CD players, or similar items are not permitted and should be away unless exceptions are made by the Principal.
- Personal cell phone use will be permitted during the school day. Use in the classroom will be determined by the classroom teacher. Use in other parts of the building will be as follows: no use of any kind in bathrooms. No video or audio recording. No calls are to be made or received without the permission of staff from the main office.
- Outside jackets and coats must be secured in the locker during school hours. Exceptions to this rule may be made by the administration.
- No parkas or heavy winter coats to be worn in class or hallways. Oversized or bulky sweatshirts are not permitted.

Students who do not abide with the provisions of the dress code can expect to be counseled by the teachers, counselors or administrators. Consistent violation of this code may result in further action as deemed necessary. Relaxation of the student dress code will be at the discretion of the school officials. Those students who are deemed inappropriately dressed may be sent home to change, provided with an appropriate garment (i.e. shirt) by building administration, and/or disciplined for repeated or flagrant violations.