



**Nederland Independent School District**  
**“Placing Safety and the Learning Environment First”**  
**STANDARDIZED DRESS CODE for Grades 6-12**

*The Nederland Independent School District dress code is established to build self-esteem, bridge socioeconomic differences between students and encourage positive behavior, thereby promoting school safety and improving the learning environment.*

Using these general guidelines and the specific guidelines listed below, school administrators, with the input and support of faculty members, have the final decision in determining and enforcing acceptable student dress and grooming standards at school and at all school related activities.

**Specific Guidelines/Restrictions**

The general appearance of students should be of such a nature as not to attract undue attention or interfere with the instructional program.

Any type of clothing or hairstyle that, in the opinion of the principal or of his designee, tends to distract or cause a student to become a disturbing influence or tends to jeopardize the health or safety of students will be prohibited.

Clothing must adequately cover the body.

A student is prohibited from having a visible tattoo or tracks in eyebrows. Also, students are prohibited from wearing any form of dress, hairstyle, or accessory identifying him or her with a gang or cult or symbolizing the beliefs of such a group.

Cleanliness of body is expected of all students.

Hair should be clean and neatly groomed. It should not cover the eyes or be colored or styled in any way that attracts undue attention. This includes colored or bleached portions of hair. Students may not have any designs cut into their hair. (Including Mohawks)

No type of cap, hat, bandanna, or headscarf or is allowed in the buildings. Headbands are allowed. Exceptions would be a cap or hat that is part of a uniform at a school activity or a head covering worn for religious purposes.

Pierced earrings are allowed, but all other body piercing jewelry is strictly prohibited. Also, students are prohibited from wearing gauging tools in ears.

Dark glasses are not permitted.

Wallet chains, oversized chains and dog collars are not permitted. Extremely large or bulky jewelry is not allowed.

All clothing must be appropriately sized. No oversized or baggy shirts or pants. Frays are allowed, but holes, tears, or cuts are not allowed in clothing.

Students who violate the dress code will not be allowed to return to class until the violation has been corrected. A second violation will be considered defiant behavior.

### **Shirts**

- Shirts may be worn in a variety of styles, however they must have:
  - A neckline no more than 2 inches below the collar bone;
  - Not expose the front or back midriff and must extend at least 2 inches below the top of pants;
  - Not include slogans or distasteful markings; and
  - Sleeves.
- Shirts may be multi-colored, striped, or plaid.
- Nederland school spirit shirts (affiliated & approved) will be acceptable dress. Other School District's attire is prohibited.
- Undershirts must be school approved. (Limit of two shirts may be worn.)
- Exceptions – Principals may designate special days on which students may opt out of the dress code such as spirit day, casual day, field-trip day, promotion day, etc.
- Curriculum-related dress (such as the hospital scrubs worn by special interest program students who are part of a medical curriculum) is acceptable.
- School organization apparel is acceptable dress upon principal approval.
- School event apparel such as carnival shirts & senior day shirts may be worn as designated by the principal.
- College shirts are allowed to promote a culture of higher education.

\*Length of shirts and blouses will be determined by placing arms against side and making a fist.

### **Pants/Shorts/Skorts, Skirts, Dresses & Jumpers**

- Pants/Shorts/Dresses include a variety of styles/colors and may:
  - Not have holes but frays are allowed;
  - Not be more than 3 inches above the knee;
  - Include slacks, shorts, athletic shorts, skirts, jeans, capris, and joggers.

- Not be oversized, baggy, and must ride at the waist or above.

### **Belts**

- Belts will be optional. Only standard belt buckles will be considered acceptable wear. (Buckle exceptions include buckles awarded as part of a curriculum and will be at the principal's discretion.) Oversized buckles (larger than credit card size), chain or metal belts, and spikes are not allowed.

### **Jackets/Coats**

- Prints or patterns are allowed, however, it must be school appropriate.
- Jackets and coats will not be longer than fist length.
- Nederland school spirit jackets and coats (affiliated & approved) will be acceptable wear.
- Hooded sweatshirts are acceptable, however hoods may not be worn indoors.
- Denim style jackets are allowed.

### **Shoes**

- Hard soled, backless shoes are allowed except slippers, house shoes, flip-flops and athletic slides.

### **Undergarments**

- Appropriate undergarments must be worn in an appropriate fashion, and be covered at all times.

Students participating in special subjects or school related activities, such as extracurricular or UIL activities or other special functions, may have a different dress or grooming code required or allowed by the sponsor, coach, teacher, or administrator. Acceptable items include scrubs, or specific wind type uniforms.

All students are required to adhere to the district dress and grooming guidelines, as well as any additional guidelines developed and approved for the campus. Exceptions will be permitted for bona fide religious or medical reasons.

Students who violate these standards may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor and may be subject to other disciplinary action.

Students are prohibited from wearing clothing, buttons, insignias, jewelry, or other items with visual, written, or implied messages that are likely to disrupt the school environment. Examples of such prohibited visual, written or implied messages include the following: drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, violence, vulgar or obscene language, political statements, and/or insults to race, religion, gender, or ethnicity.