

# RUSSELL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

(Revised March 16, 2011)

To fulfill the mission of Russell County Schools, “to raise each student’s academic and social achievement to a proficient level”, this dress code policy is herein stated. The purpose for this dress code is to provide an environment where academics are the focus. Furthermore, this dress code will help unify students who come from various elementary schools, thus allowing for smoother transition into middle school and creating a more unified student body.

## Enforcement and Consequences

Dress code violations will be corrected during or before 1<sup>st</sup> period by administration and staff. They will confer with students whose appearance does not conform to these rules. Students who do not meet the standard of dress will not be allowed to return to the classroom until they meet the standard of dress stated below. If a student is unable or unwilling to make the needed changes to comply with the dress code, the student will be sent home. The time out of school will be unexcused. Repeated violations of the dress code will result in In-School Suspension, Alternative School, and Suspension. Punishments for each offense are stated in the Russell County Middle School Discipline Code.

### 1. Clothing

The following are not allowed as external garments:

- Swimwear/sleepwear
- Garments which expose the bare midriff or back while standing or sitting
- Sleeveless shirts or blouses with large arm holes
- Outer Garments that allow undergarments to be seen
- Torn articles of clothing (Holes or tears that show undergarments or skin must have a permanent patch.)
- Shoes with wheels
- Trench coats
- Wallet chains or spiked jewelry

### 2. Offensive Items

No Clothing, distracting jewelry, or tattoos that promote or imply:

- a. Violence
- b. Vulgarity
- c. Illegal activities, such as drugs, alcohol, or tobacco use
- d. Sexual behavior
- e. Cult or gang activity
- f. Negative messages toward individuals or groups

### 3. Shirts and Tops

Tank tops, halter tops, or shirts with revealing necklines (cleavage) are not allowed.

### 4. Shorts and Skirts

All shorts, skirts, and skorts must be knee length while standing relaxed. Slits must also be knee length.

### 5. Pants

Pants must be worn on the hips. Pants “sagging” or hanging below the waist will not be allowed. Pants must fit the student’s waist without the use of a belt, and, for sanitary and safety issues, must not drag the floor. All pants must be tight enough so that no underwear shows when standing or sitting. Pants may not have excessive or distracting decoration. Pants are not to have writing across the buttocks. No rear cleavage shall be exposed while standing or sitting.

**Holes, slashes or cuts are NOT allowed in pants above the knee.**

### 6. Piercings

Body piercings are limited to the ears. No face piercings.

### 7. Head Dresses

No hats, caps, combs, bandannas, head dresses, or sweatbands shall be visible, or worn at school unless they are necessary for health or safety purposes. These items will be confiscated.

### 8. Eyewear

No sunglasses shall be worn inside the school building without a medical reason.

### 9. Makeup and Hair

Students may not wear makeup that is out of the ordinary or distracting. Including, but not limited to, excessive eye makeup, decorative face painting, or body art. Hair color and/or style that is distracting to instruction is not allowed.

### 10. Other

**All board policies regarding dress code apply to Russell County Middle School. The administration reserves the right to determine whether any student’s dress is unacceptable or inappropriate for school and take corrective action. Since a dress code cannot account for continuing changes in styles and fashion, it is not practical to attempt to list every possible example of dress that would not be appropriate for school.**