

DRESS CODE INFORMATION -

Student Dress Code Policy for the 2010-2011 School Year:

Belleville East and West encourage a standard in behavior, dress, grooming, and appearance that reflects pride in self, home, and school. However, student apparel at Belleville East and West has become a disruption to the educational process as clothing has served to promote gang affiliations and classroom disruptions. The purpose of this standardized dress policy is to improve the safety of the schools by discouraging gang affiliations, improve the learning environment, reduce classroom distractions, bridge socio-economic differences between students, increase students' self-respect and self-esteem, enhance student security, and enable a cost savings for families. This standardized dress policy allows students to focus on their academics rather than on peer pressure related to fads and/or costly attire. Raising the standard of dress will enhance the school's image within the community and improve school spirit. Disciplinary actions will be taken to enforce compliance with this policy. Disciplinary actions range from a reprimand or detention, to an out-of-school suspension. Reasonable accommodations (no more than five days) will be given to transfer students registering during the school year.

Questions related to the Student Dress Code should be directed to the campus principals: Mr. Bob Dahm at Belleville West (222-7695) or Mrs. Stephanie Harrison at Belleville East (222-3795).

Color Scheme:

Pants/Capri Pants, Skirts, Dresses: Khaki, Black, Navy Blue

Shirts: Acceptable colors are White, Maroon, Blue, Grey

A. Pants/Capri Pants (slack style, relaxed fit)

1. Must be a solid color
2. Must be worn at waist level
3. No sweatpants, denim, leather, stretch/spandex pants.

B. Skirts (relaxed fit)

1. Must be a solid color.
2. Length must be below the knee.
3. No denim, leather, stretch/spandex skirts.
4. Slits can't rise above the knee.

C. Shirts (collar shirt, sweater, sweatshirt, and turtleneck)

1. Must be a solid color.
2. All shirts must be one of the color choices.
3. Layered shirts must be one of the color choices.
4. Shirt length must be no longer than bottom, back pocket level or tucked in.
5. Logos on shirts may be no larger than a half dollar with the exception of Belleville East/West Spirit Wear.
6. Students will be allowed to wear school issued athletic uniforms.
7. School sponsored clubs/activities must adhere to the standardized dress policy.
8. Ties are optional.

D. Belts (black or brown)

1. Must be a solid color
2. Belts and suspenders must be properly buckled, and may not dangle.

E. Shoes

1. All students will wear shoes or sandals.
2. Shoes with laces must be tied.
3. If a student wears boots, the pants may not be tucked in.
4. Socks are optional.

F. Additional Requirements

1. See-through apparel will not be worn.
2. No chains will be allowed.
3. Appropriate and necessary undergarments must be worn and not shown.
4. Clothing must cover the upper (cleavage) and the lower (midriff) torso at all times.
5. Students may not wear or carry bandannas.
6. Gang-related apparel is not acceptable.
7. No hats, headgear, or sweatbands on campus at any times. Students may wear hooded sweatshirts: however, the hoods must be down. Exception will be announced by the administration due to inclement weather.
8. Dress must follow the shirt and skirt guidelines.
9. Shirts, skirts, pants, and dresses must be a relaxed fit.
10. Students are not allowed to wear jackets/coats in the building after the start of the student day (8:30 a.m.) It is expected that all jackets be secured in the student's locker before 8:30 a.m.

The Superintendent shall create procedures for students with legitimate religious objections to this dress code policy.

Students who cannot comply with this policy due to economic hardship will be provided assistance. Those students are directed to contact the Superintendent's office for an economic hardship application. A committee of parents, students, faculty, and administration met to create this standardized dress policy. This standardized dress policy is not a prescribed uniform that must be purchased from a specific vendor. The Board of Education reserves the right to modify this policy when deemed necessary.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: Students who cannot comply with the Student Dress Code Policy due to economic hardship will be provided assistance on a one-time basis. A student whose economic situation qualifies will receive two sets of school clothing for their entire high school career. The economic hardship application can be downloaded from the District's website, <http://bths201.org>. The form will also be available at textbook pick-up time.

Discipline to be imposed for violations of the student dress code policy:

Students not complying with this student dress code policy will be sent home to change clothes and will be unexcused (no make-up work) for the duration of their absence. After three violations, the following consequences would apply:

- 4th violation – sent home unexcused and 1 Saturday Detention
- 5th violation – sent home unexcused and 2 Saturday Detentions
- 6th violation – sent home unexcused and 1 day of In-School Detention
- 7th violation - sent home unexcused, 1 day of In-School Detention and 1 Saturday Detention
- 8th violation – sent home unexcused and 3 day Out of School Suspension
- 9th violation – sent home unexcused and 5 day Out of School Suspension
- 10th violation – sent home unexcused and 7 day Out of School Suspension

If students or parents have any questions, they should contact the following:

Mrs. Stephanie Harrison, Principal
Belleville East High School
2555 West Boulevard
Belleville, IL 62221
618.222.3707

Mr. Bob Dahm, Principal
Belleville West High School
4063 Frank Scott Parkway West
Belleville, IL 62223
618.222.7604

Financial Assistance

Students who cannot comply with the Student Dress Code Policy due to economic hardship will be provided assistance. Economic hardship will be determined based upon the same economic standard as Federal Free and Reduced Lunch program. A student whose economic situation qualifies them for a free and/or reduced lunch will receive two sets of school clothing. The economic hardship application is here: Dress Code Financial Assistance Form 1.

Religious Exemptions

The parent or legal guardian of a student (or a student who is 18 years of age or older) may object to the student's compliance with any portion of this Student Dress Code Policy based upon a sincerely held religious belief. In order to object, the parent or legal guardian (or student who is 18 years of age or older) shall submit a written statement which responds to the following questions:

- For which part of the student dress code policy are you requesting an exemption?
- What is the basis for the request for religious exemption?
- What religious teaching, religious belief or religious practice prohibits compliance with this student dress code policy?

In addition, all written objections must be accompanied by a signed statement of either a religious official, (such as minister, rabbi, imam, or other) or another person who can

verify the nature and good faith basis of the sincerely held religious belief. The Superintendent or his designee shall review all objections to the Student Dress Code Policy. Students with legitimate religious objections shall not be required to comply with those portions of the Student Dress Code Policy which conflict with such good faith, religious requirements.

If the application for religious exemption is denied, the student applying for the exemption may appeal the determination to the Board of Education who will review the application and make a determination within 30 days of the appeal.