

## Students

### Student Appearance

A student's appearance, including dress and grooming, must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency. Procedures for handling students who dress or groom inappropriately will be developed by the Superintendent and included in the *Student Handbook(s)*.

#### Standardized Dress Policy

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 student's 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.

#### Color Scheme:

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

Shirts: District School Colors (White, Maroon, Blue, Grey, Black)

#### A. Pants/Capri Pants

1. Must be a solid color.
2. Must be worn at waist level.
3. No sweatpants, blue jeans, leather, spandex pants, exercise/workout wear.
4. When worn at the waist, must fall at the knee.

#### B. Skirts

1. Must be a solid color.
2. Length must be at the knee.
3. No blue jeans, leather, 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. If a sweater or sweatshirt is worn open, a dress code appropriate shirt must be worn underneath.
5. Shirt length must be no longer than bottom, back pocket level or tucked in.
6. Logos on shirts may be no larger than a student ID with the exception of Belleville East/West Spirit Wear. Must have East or West prominently displayed.

7. Belleville East/West Spirit Wear t-shirts that are approved by the Building Principal.
  8. Students will be allowed to wear school issued athletic uniforms.
  9. School sponsored clubs/activities must adhere to the standardized dress policy.
  10. 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 time. Students may wear hooded sweatshirts; however, the hoods must be down. Exception will be announced by the administration due to inclement weather.
  8. Dresses must follow the shirt and skirt guidelines.
  9. Students will not be allowed to wear jackets/coats in the classrooms after the start of the student day (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, student, 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.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.25b.  
Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969).

CROSS REF.: 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:190 (Student Behavior)

ADOPTED: July 15, 2013

REVISED: August 15, 2016