



**Information regarding the update to the Student Dress Code for
Sebastian River Middle School, Sebastian River High School and Vero Beach High School**

The Student Code of Conduct Committee consisting of students, parents, teachers, staff, and community members met several times throughout last school year. These meetings were publicized and were open to the public.

The Committee recommended changes to the Code of Conduct, which included updates to the dress code. The Board approved these updates at a June Board meeting. The updates to the dress code effect ONLY Sebastian River Middle School, Sebastian River High School, and Vero Beach High School. All other schools will continue to follow the dress code that has been established at their schools.

There are two significant changes to the dress code for Sebastian River Middle School, Sebastian River High School, and Vero Beach High School. First, clothing and accessories will contain no words or graphics, however, shirts may contain print and a logo no larger than 2"x 2". Secondly, apparel will contain no sheer, net, mesh, or sleepwear items. No leggings, jeggings, or pajamas are allowed.

We understand the desire for individuality among our students. We believe that with the updates to the dress code, students will still be able to express themselves appropriately and enjoy the clothing they wear, while respecting themselves and others.

Please see the Student Dress Code for the School District of Indian River County below.



Student Dress Code

Dress code standards foster a safe, healthy, and positive climate that promotes constructive discipline, maintains order, and supports the teaching and learning process. Every school shall publish its dress code on their school's website.

Elementary school students wear a unified dress code. Each school will provide a description of their unified dress code.

Dress and Grooming Expectations for All Students:

- Pants are to be worn above the hip bone, with no visible undergarments, and present no safety hazards.
- Dress and grooming practices will not interfere with school work, create disorder, disrupt the educational program, or prevent the student from achieving educational objectives.
- Hair and clothing must not block vision or restrict movement.
- Clothing and accessories will contain no words or graphics, except for authorized school-approved clubs and activities (this is not intended to exclude clothing name brands 2 by 2 inches).
- Clothing will fit appropriately and include no oversized, undersized, or tight garments.
- Apparel will contain no sheer, net, mesh, or sleepwear items. Shirts will cover the person from the shoulders to the waist at all times, with no revealed midriff or cleavage. (i.e. leggings, jeggings and pajamas)
- Shorts, skorts, dresses and skirts are to extend beyond finger-length or mid-thigh, whichever measurement is longer.
- Hats and sunglasses may only be worn for P.E. activities, recess, or other specific circumstances when authorized by the Principal.
- Jewelry, accessories, or extended fingernails that could be deemed unsafe are not permitted. Dog-type collars, chains, and spikes are not allowed.
- Trench coats/Capes are prohibited.
- Certain courses may require a specific dress code.

District officials do have the flexibility to relax certain dress code requirements to ensure student safety and comfort. For example, if our community is experiencing extremely cold weather, the code may be relaxed to allow heavy coats, denim jeans, and other cold weather apparel that may not meet standard school dress code requirements.

Note: The Principal has the final authority to determine when personal appearance does not meet expectations.

State statute authorizes the school board to establish dress code requirements. All elementary schools will adhere

to a unified dress code established by the school board and superintendent. For middle and high schools, the school board requires the School Advisory Council (SAC) to decide whether a unified or restrictive dress code is necessary for the safety and welfare of the student body and school personnel. When the SAC determines that a unified or restrictive dress code is necessary, the proposition shall be submitted to a vote of the families of students at such school, pursuant to a procedure established by the superintendent. If the proposition is approved by persons eligible to vote, and passes with a written vote of at least fifty percent + 1 (majority vote) in favor of the proposition, then the requirement for a unified or restrictive dress code shall be established and enforced at that school.

Additional information may also be referenced in Florida State Statute 1001.43(1)(b) and School Board Policy 5511.