

Policy Code: 4316 Student Dress Code

The board believes that the dress and personal appearance of students greatly affect their academic performance and their interaction with other students. In order to provide an educational environment that is safe, conducive to learning and promotes school pride and student self-esteem, the board adopts the following general dress and appearance guidelines as well as the concept of standardized dress for all students.

A. General Dress and Appearance Guidelines

Generally, dress and grooming standards as determined by the student and his or her parents will be deemed acceptable. However, the board prohibits any appearance or clothing that does the following:

1. violates the Anson County Schools mode of standardized dress (see Section B, below);
2. is substantially disruptive to the educational process or operation of the school;
3. promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, the use of controlled substances or other illegal behavior, or is of a sexual nature;
4. is gang-related (for more information on gang-related attire, see policy 4328, Gang-Related Activity);
5. is sheer, mesh or has excessive holes;
6. reveals undergarments;
7. is vulgar or obscene; or
8. endangers the health or safety of the student or others.

Principals, in conjunction with sponsors, coaches or other persons in charge of extracurricular activities, may regulate dress and grooming of students who participate in a particular activity if the principal reasonably believes that the student's dress or grooming creates a hazard, or may prevent, interfere with or adversely affect the purpose, direction or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals.

B. Standardized Dress – (WAIVED FOR 2ND SEMESTER 2020/2021 SY ONLY - SECTION B)

Students at all schools must follow the approved mode of standardized dress as set forth below. Anson County Schools pride apparel may be worn as part of the approved standardized dress.

All clothing must be worn appropriately – i.e., no inside-out or backwards clothes, no rolled up pants legs, belts must be buckled and worn at the waistline, etc.

1. Shirts

Golf/polo or tee shirts are permissible but must be a solid school color. Students at all schools may wear white, navy or orange. In addition, students at the following schools may wear the following colors:

- a. Anson Academy – white, navy or orange
- b. Anson Early College High – royal blue, gold or gray
- c. Anson High School – white, navy or orange
- d. Anson Middle School – white, navy or orange
- e. Ansonville Elementary – royal blue
- f. Lilesville Elementary – royal blue
- g. Morven Elementary – green
- h. Peachland-Polkton Elementary – royal blue
- i. Wadesboro Primary – purple
- j. Wadesboro Elementary – purple

Woven button-down, collared dress shirts are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

Mock turtlenecks or turtlenecks are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

Crew neck sweaters or sweatshirts that do not hang past the straddle of the pants are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

All shirts and blouses must cover the waist or midriff. Tank tops and spaghetti straps are prohibited.

Form fitting spandex material, nylon, leather, denim, corduroy, overalls and sweat shirts are prohibited.

2. Pants, Shorts, Skirts, Jumpers, Dresses and Skorts

All such “bottom” garments must be khaki (tan) or navy in color. No other colors may be visible on the garment (e.g., pockets, buttons, zippers, etc.).

Garments cannot have frays and must be hemmed and not dragging the floor.

Pants must be worn above the hips at all times. “Sagging” pants are prohibited.

Shorts, skirts, jumpers, dresses and skorts must pass the “finger tip” test. This means that when the student’s shoulders are relaxed and arms are fully extended toward the knee at the student’s side, the student’s finger-tips do not reach beyond the material on the garment. This includes any slits on clothing.

Form fitting spandex material, nylon, leather, denim, corduroy, overalls and sweat pants are prohibited.

3. Footwear

Proper footwear must be worn at all times. Shoes that have laces must be laced, tied and fit. Shoes must have backs or heel straps.

No cleats may be worn inside.

4. Outerwear

Jackets and overcoats are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color or a combination of white, navy and/or orange at all elementary and middle schools.

5. Headwear

Hats, sweatbands, bandanas and sunglasses are prohibited inside school buildings.

6. Personal Appearance

Combs and other hair grooming items cannot be visible in the hair. Piercings are allowed unless they present a health hazard or disrupt the educational process or operation of the school.

C. Consequences

Before receiving disciplinary consequences, a student who is not in compliance with this policy will be given a reasonable period of time to make adjustments so that he or she will be in compliance. Disciplinary consequences for a student who fails to comply after being offered this opportunity shall be consistent with Section D of policy 4300, Student Behavior Policies. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violation of the dress code.

D. Waivers, Accommodations, and Financial Assistance

Each school administration and staff may choose days during the school year when students are not required to adhere to the approved standardized dress code (e.g., picture day, school spirit day, educational character costume day, etc.).

Reasonable accommodations will be made by the principal or designee for those students who, because of a sincerely held religious belief, cultural heritage, special needs or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline or provision of the standardized dress code.

Reasonable accommodations will be made by the principal or designee to accommodate students involved in special duties, activities or projects approved by the school. This would include but is not limited to: athletics, vocational classes and projects, special events or other activities that would allow for non-conforming dress on a school campus.

Parents who require financial assistance to comply with this policy may submit a request for assistance in writing to the principal.

Legal References: [G.S. 115C-47](#), [-390.2](#)

Cross References: Student Behavior Policies (policy 4300), School Plan for Management of Student Behavior (policy 4302), Disruptive Behavior (policy 4315); Gang-Related Activity (policy 4328)

Adopted: July 25, 2011

Revised: May 28, 2013; October 30, 2017; April 30, 2018

December 14, 2020: The board of education waived Section B (only) for the 2nd semester of the 2020/2021 SY.