



What Not to Wear: A Guide to Perry Middle School's Dress Code Policy

DR. HEATH BURCH

PRINCIPAL OF PERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome to our Panther Family!

Dear Families,

While you are enjoying the summer months and relaxed pace, we want to assist you with planning your student(s) wardrobe for the upcoming year. At Perry Middle School, our mission is to “motivate, educate, and promote lifelong learning”. In order to do that, we try to minimize any distractions that may lead to the disruption of learning. This PowerPoint was created to help guide you as you begin the task of back-to-school shopping. Please reach out to one of our administrators if you have any questions. We are so glad to have you here and look forward to a wonderful and successful school year!

Dr. Heath Burch

Why a dress code?

Perry Middle School's dress code policy, in conjunction with the Houston County School District's dress code policy, is designed to create an atmosphere for learning while providing students with a bit of freedom of expression through their wardrobe.

And yet, while many parents applaud the demand of school dress codes as a way to ensure that their children are dressed properly, others question whether the requirement of dress codes in school eliminates their child's individualism.

Experts agree that there are many benefits of school dress codes.

- ▶ Here are some of the most important advantages:
 - ▶ A dress code promotes a more serious school atmosphere which **emphasizes academics** and **promotes good behavior**.
 - ▶ Dress codes have proven to **increase student achievement** by encouraging students to **concentrate more** on their studies and less on their wardrobe. A de-emphasis on clothing can also **save money**, as there will be less pressure to keep up with expensive trends and fashions.
 - ▶ Dress codes in school settings **reduce social conflict and peer pressure** that may be associated with appearance.
 - ▶ As opposed to uniforms, dress codes still allow students to wear what they want which leaves students with **a sense of choice and expression**.
 - ▶ School dress codes are a way to teach students the **importance of a respectable appearance** which is a lesson that can positively **impact their self-respect and self-esteem**.

Leggings Jeggings, Yoga Pants, and Tights

Students are allowed to wear leggings, jeggings, and yoga pants, but the requirement is that there is something on top of them that reaches AT LEAST mid-thigh. The examples on this page are all examples of reasons your child may be asked to call home. In other words, these examples DO NOT meet the dress code requirement here at Perry Middle School or the Houston County School District's Dress Code Policy. This rule is enforced for both male and female students.



Leggings Jeggings, Yoga Pants, and Tights

Here are the expectations for students when wearing leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, and/or tights. As you can see in all the examples, each student has something on top that reaches at least mid-thigh length.



Compression/Biker Shorts

Students are not allowed to wear biker shorts at Perry Middle School.

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Jeans with Holes

At Perry Middle School, we understand that current fashion trends in jeans have changed over time and that jeans with holes are commonplace. However, in order to operate a school where instruction is the emphasis, holes in clothing that are excessive in size or amount, are a distraction to the learning environment, or allow the skin to show **mid-thigh** or higher are prohibited. All the examples on this page will result in a student having to call home for a change of clothes.



Large holes and Skin Showing

Jeans with holes above the **mid-thigh** with skin showing; also, the holes are too large. Holes must be fist size and no more than two.



Excessive holes and Skin Showing

Too many holes; two fists could not cover them all at one time. Also, skin is showing above the **mid-thigh**.



Large holes

Even with tights, the size of the holes and the placement of the holes above the **mid-thigh**, make these pants out of dress code.

Jeans with Holes

If you are going to buy jeans with holes, please understand the following:

- ▶ **No skin above the mid-thigh should be showing.** If you have two small holes or less above **mid-thigh**, tights, leggings, or compression shorts/pants must be worn underneath the jeans.
- ▶ Jeans with holes mid-thigh or below are acceptable and do not need undergarments.

The following examples are acceptable for wear.



Pants

Sagging pants are not allowed, and pants must be worn at the waist.



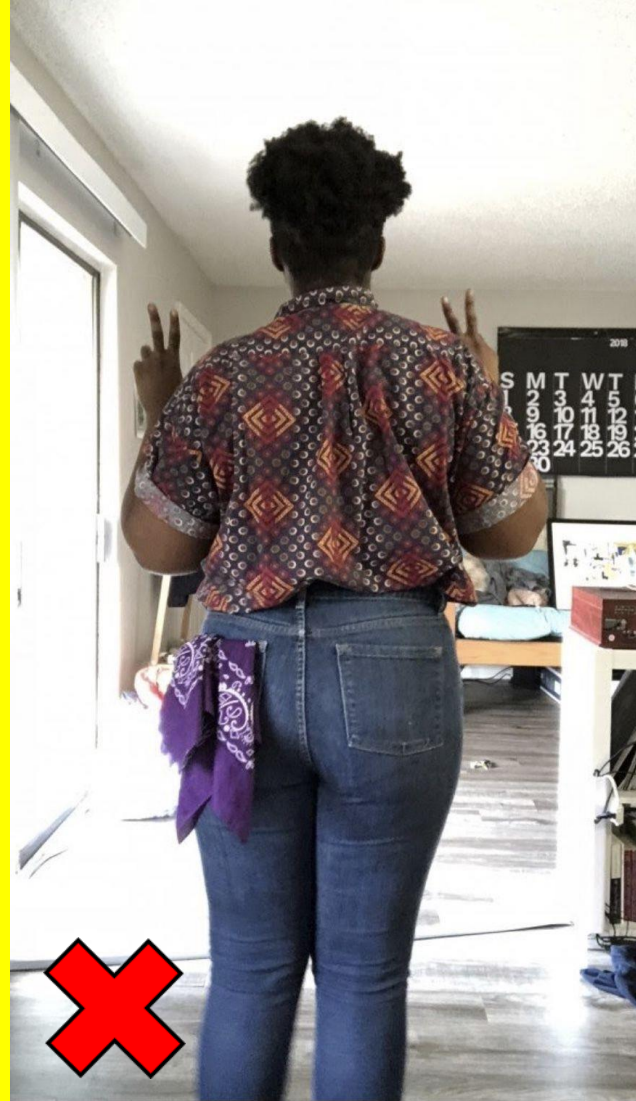
Hair Color

Learning is our number one focus here at Perry Middle School; therefore, any distraction to the learning environment will not be tolerated. Students may bleach or dye their hair if they so choose to. However, extreme hairstyles, **COLORs**, and fads that would **interfere** with the learning process or cause a disruption to the educational environment are prohibited. Each picture represented here would be acceptable unless the style or color caused a disruption to the school day.



Bandanas

► Bandanas are not to be worn on the head or hang out of pants pockets at school. Bandanas should be always kept at home. This rule applies to males and females.

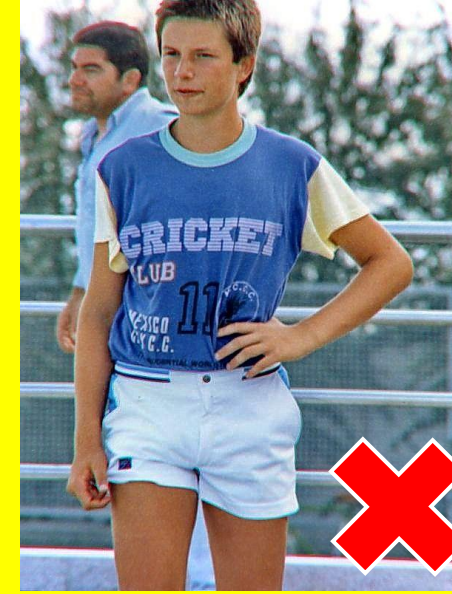




Hoodies, Vissors, and Baseball Caps

▶ Hoodies, visors, and baseball caps are allowed at Perry Middle School. However, hoodies, visors, and hats/caps should **not** be worn on the head while in the building.

Length of Shorts, Dresses, and Skirts



► Please be advised that all skirts, shorts, and dresses must be **mid-thigh length or longer**. The shorts on this page are too short and would not be appropriate for wear here at Perry Middle School. This rule is for male and female students.

Appropriate Length of Shorts and Skirts

The following examples depict shorts that are the acceptable length to meet dress code standards.

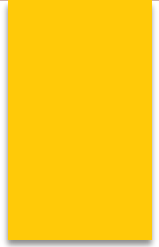


**The holes are acceptable because they are below the mid-thigh.

Other **Unacceptable** Forms of Dress

Please have your student(s) refrain from wearing any of the following garments or styles while attending Perry Middle School.

1. Pajamas (unless Dr. Burch announces a Pajama Day).
2. Bedroom slippers
3. Undershirts or tanktops (unless under a regular shirt)
4. Shirts or dresses with spaghetti straps
5. Half shirts or halter tops
6. Sagging pants





Questions? Comments? Concerns?

PLEASE REFERENCE THE DISTRICT'S MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK
AT [HTTPS://WWW.HCBE.NET/DISTRICTSTUDENTHANDBOOKS](https://www.hcbe.net/districtstudenthandbooks) OR REACH
OUT TO AN ADMINISTRATOR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU
BUY!!!

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LET'S HAVE A GREAT 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!

SEE YOU SOON!