

SMS Dress Code 2017-2018

Scottsburg Middle School has high standards for student appearance.

The SMS Dress Code is designed to

- reduce distractions that interfere with learning,
- promote student health and safety,
- promote positive student interactions, and
- prepare students for a working world where appearance may not be their choice.



Shirts/Blouses: Students must wear a sleeved shirt that fully covers the torso. The midsection and the female cleavage must be totally covered at all times. Shirts may not be overly tight or see through with lace, mesh, or cut outs that show the torso or undergarments. Shirts may not contain text or images that represent alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, slurs, nor be sexually suggestive.

Layers: Students may wear layers such as sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, or sweat jackets provided they meet the rules stated above. Under layers such as tank tops or camisoles may be worn with shirts provided that the shirt provides coverage on its own. Students may not wear coats or outerwear during the day.

Pants/Shorts/Skirts: Students may wear jeans, pants, capris, shorts, skirts, or sweatpants provided that they contain no rips or tears above the knee. Pants/shorts/skirts must be worn at the natural waist and be maintained there on their own with or without a belt. Pant legs will not drag on the ground. Shorts/skirts must equal the length of outstretched fingertips. Leggings, yoga pants, tights, or similarly revealing items may not be worn without a 360 degree cover that matches the length of the wearer's outstretched palm. Pajama pants/loungewear may not be worn.



Footwear: Students must wear footwear at all times. Shoes, boots, sandals, or flip-flops may be worn. Soft-soled slippers, light up shoes, heelies, and shoes with heels higher than one inch may not be worn.

Accessories/Hair: Students may not wear sunglasses, wallet chains, clothing or jewelry with spikes or pins, or gloves or other hand coverings. Hats, bandanas, and other forms of head covering will not be worn without permission of the administration. Piercings of the lip, nose, neck, cheek or area other than the ear are not allowed. Make-up, hairstyles, and hair color must not be distracting. Hair must be worn in a style where staff can see the wearer's eyes. Wearable technology (such as a watch) that provides internet or phone access may not be worn at school.

Other: Dresses may be worn provided they meet coverage and length standards. All clothing items must be clean. Students are not to write on their clothing or skin at school. Visible tattoos are not allowed.

Parents: It is very important that we do not 'sexualize' your middle school children by allowing her to wear clothing that provides peers view of private areas. Clothing styles that may have been appropriate for young elementary kids may no longer be appropriate for adolescents in a school setting. Thank you for covering up. If you have any questions, please contact the SMS administration.

Violations? Students with questionable appearance can be referred to the administration by any staff member. The administrator will make final decisions regarding appearance. Students in violation of the dress code will be required to make changes as directed by the administration. This may mean changing clothes, calling for clothes, or wearing a school-provided alternative. In addition to the changes, dress code violators will be assigned a warning for the first violation and a detention for all subsequent appearance violations.

Of all the things you wear, your expression is most important.

~Janet Lane