



## Mitchell High School Dress Code Policy 2023-2024

The MHS DRESS CODE Policy is an approved departure from the SCS Uniform Policy described in SCS BOE Policy #6021. Our focus is on appropriate attire that is not detrimental to the overall academic environment with accepted modesty concerns. It must be understood by faculty, students, and parents that any exception to the specifications listed in the MHS Dress Code must be approved by the building principal alone.

Teachers, staff, and/or administrators will not authorize deviations to the written policy without written approval from the principal. (This includes any team or club wear that does not meet the basic policy outlined below.) However, this restriction does not prohibit administrators from making a judgment call on the acceptability of specific "gray area" clothing.

**BACKPACKS:** **Clear Backpacks, Clear Crossbodies, or Mesh Backpacks** are required for all students carrying backpacks or purses! Young ladies can carry crossbody purses (clear or mesh) that will fit in backpacks. **Backpacks not of clear nature will be held in the designated holding area and students may carry school items! Backpacks will be held until parent pickups on designated days. (Fridays at 3:15pm.)** All students participating in extra-curricular activities must have a clear or mesh bag as well.

**PANTS & TOPS:** Pants (including jeans) must be worn at the waist, be appropriately sized with no rips, tears, or holes above the knees. Tights, leggings or "jeggings" as pants may only be worn with a top that extends to at least mid-thigh while standing. Skirts, dresses, and shorts may be worn no more than 2 inches above the bent knee. The length of the outer garment must comply with this guideline regardless of any under garment such as tights. No color restrictions. Shirts, blouses, and dresses must have sleeves and must completely cover the abdomen, back, and shoulders. Shirts or tops must cover the waist band of pants, shorts, or skirts (or be tucked in) with no midriff visible. No color restrictions. **Prohibited: Low-cut shirts or tops; extremely tight tops, tube tops, or any top that exposes cleavage; see-through blouses, shirts, or tops regardless of opaque under garments. NO SEE-THROUGH LEGGINGS**

**GRAPHIC TEES & HEADGEAR:** All Printed T-shirts are approved **EXCEPT** for those with prohibited words, pictures or logos. White undershirts are not acceptable as outerwear. **Head apparel (i.e., NO hoods, hoodies, caps, hats, scarves, bandanas, BONNETS) must NOT be worn inside the building including hallways, classrooms, cafeteria, auditorium, and gymnasiums** except for religious or medical reasons as acknowledged and approved by the principal.

**FOOTWEAR:** Footwear is required and must be safe and appropriate for both indoor and outdoor physical activity. **NO flip flops, slide-on shoes, and sandals that do not have a heel strap based on safety concerns. Ladies' heels must be no higher than 1½ inches.** Sweaters, sweatshirts, and lightweight jackets may be worn inside the school for warmth if the garment is at least waist-length, appropriately sized, and is free of any restricted images. Restricted Images: Any image including logos, designs, or words making racial, ethnic, gender or sexual slurs are prohibited on any article of clothing. Clothing may not display artwork or words that promote gang affiliation and/or illegal or inappropriate products such as alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances.

**LIST OF PROHIBITED ITEMS (not specified above):** Large, long, or heavy chains, studded or chained accessories, sunglasses (unless medically directed), **NO sleepwear, pajamas, house slippers/shoes or blankets, and extremely high or stiletto heels.** The school administration reserves the right to determine whether a student's attire is decent, safe, and appropriate (non-distracting).

**CONSEQUENCES:** Since the dress code was established at the will of the school population and approved by vote, any deviation from the policy will be considered overt disregard and may be subject to progressive discipline. Students who violate the dress policy will be asked to correct the problem before attending any classes. Students may remove the inappropriate garment and leave it with the Student Support Office if the simple removal places the student in compliance. **If the student requires replacement attire, parents will be contacted, and the child will remain in the Attendance Office until appropriate attire is brought to the school. Students who are unable to obtain suitable clothing for the day will be assigned "Supervised Study" (In School Suspension). Assignment to "Supervised Study" is for a first offense only; note that repeat offenders will receive progressive discipline.**