

DRESS CODE

The Governing Board for the William S. Hart Union High School District has adopted the following "Dress Code Policy" BP 51321. It states: "Appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process."

The three criteria for the establishment of the dress code are:

Safe environment
Modest Dress
Conducive to educational pursuits

1. The only **HEAD COVERINGS** allowed are Rio Norte logo hats, which may be worn outdoors only. No other hats are allowed. Sweatshirt hoods and gloves/mittens may only be worn outdoors and only in cold weather.
2. **ACCESSORIES AND JEWELRY** must be safe for the wearer and to others, and may not distract from the educational process. Spike earrings, spikes, chains, and wallet chains are not allowed. Sunglasses may be worn outside only. Students must have a doctor's note (submitted to the health office) to wear sunglasses inside.
3. Students must wear **MODEST CLOTHING**. Excessively tight clothing, bare midriffs, large or plunging necklines, off-the-shoulder tops, tube tops, sheer clothing, cut-outs on clothing, oversized overalls, or any items that allow the wearer's undergarments to show are not allowed. **All shirts must have sleeves.**
4. The length of **SKIRTS AND SHORTS** should be finger tip length or mid-thigh, whichever is longer, when the skirt or shorts are worn at the waist and the student's arms are relaxed at the side. Wearing leggings underneath a skirt or shorts does **not** change the length requirement, and leggings are not a substitute for pants.
5. Students may not wear clothing or other items that present a **GANG APPEARANCE**, including: chains, handkerchiefs, socks pulled up to meet shorts, cut-off pants, oversized t-shirts, sporting or flying colors, bandanas, and do-rags.
6. **MESSAGES ON CLOTHING** that include alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual activity, obscenity, weapons, or anti-social behavior are not allowed. Messages connected to skin head groups, hate groups, or racial-pride groups are not allowed. Messages that have an inappropriate "double-meaning" are not allowed.
7. **PANTS AND SHORTS MUST FIT** at the waist and may not reveal underwear. Sagging pants and pajama bottoms are not allowed.
8. **TATTERED, RIPPED, or TORN** clothing, including garments designed this way, are not acceptable.
9. **SAFE SHOES** must be worn at all times. Flip-flops, slippers, or any soft-soled shoes are not allowed. Sandals are acceptable if they meet one of two criteria: they have a strap around the back of the foot OR if they have a strap over the top of the foot that is at least 1-1/2" wide. Steel-toed shoes and shoes with a rolling device are not allowed.
10. **PE UNIFORMS** are to be worn in PE and Dance classes only, and may not be worn at any other time on campus.
11. Students are not to write on their own or others' bodies or clothing.

Rio Norte reserves the right to prohibit anything not expressly addressed in this dress code which administration determines to be offensive, suggestive, unsafe, or disruptive to the educational process.

Consequences of dress code violations:

First Offense: The student is warned and parent/guardian is contacted by letter. There will be a change of clothing.

Additional Offense: The student is warned and parent/guardian is contacted by letter. There will be a change of clothing and loss of 5 merits.

NOTE: Serious single or first-time offenses may result in immediate suspension. Repeated violations of the dress code may also result in Saturday School and/or suspension from school. Dress code guidelines are designed to help reduce potential problems on campus and provide a positive learning environment. Thank you for your attention and cooperation regarding these matters.

The school dress code will be in effect from the first day of school through the last day of school, during the school day, and at all school activities.