



## Uniform Policy Questions and Answers

**Question:** What is meant by "denim" fabric?"

**Answer:** This means blue jean-type material.

**Question:** Does that mean that blue jeans will be permitted?

**Answer:** Yes, traditional blue jean colors are acceptable, with no stripes, decorations or embroidery. This eliminates faded, bleached, torn/frayed, or jeans with any embellishments.

**Question:** Can black jeans be worn as well as the blue jeans?

**Answer:** No, the policy requires traditional blue jean colors.

**Question:** What days will students be allowed to wear jeans?

**Answer:** They will be allowed to wear jeans any day of the week.

**Question:** Are capri pants acceptable?

**Answer:** Yes, capris are acceptable as long as they are navy blue or khaki (tan) in color, or traditional blue jean colors.

**Question:** If a girl wears a navy or khaki skirt, are leggings allowed to be worn underneath? If so, do they have to be a certain color?

**Answer:** Yes, leggings would be allowed as long as they were navy or khaki.

**Question:** Are cargo shorts, whether blue jean material or khaki, allowed?

**Answer:** Yes, denim, corduroy, or twill fabric shorts in navy blue or khaki (tan) are acceptable. Unacceptable shorts include spandex-style "bicycle" shorts, cut-off jeans, frayed jeans or pants, cut-off sweat pants, short shorts, running shorts, and see-through boxer-type shorts. Students shall wear clothing of appropriate size as determined by the principal or designee exercising his or her judgment. The size of shirts and pants shall be appropriate to the student's body size and shall not be unduly oversized or undersized.

**Question:** Is there any restrictions of the type and color of belt to be worn?

**Answer:** There is nothing in the policy about belt color/type so no restrictions as long as it is around the waist like it should be.

**Question:** Are there any specifications on how large a belt buckle is allowed?

**Answer:** The policy doesn't limit the size for a belt buckle. It does say that clothing that is construed by the principal or designee as hazardous or dangerous to the health of the student or others is unacceptable. It also states that the decision as to whether or not clothing or the appearance of a student is a violation of the policy shall be made by the principal, and such decision shall be determinative and final.

**Question:** Do the shirts have to be a solid color or are prints allowed?

**Answer:** The policy allows for solid color shirts only - - no prints. Shirts should be long or short-sleeved navy blue or white collared shirts, such as a polo, oxford, or dress shirt. One or two additional specified school colors will be allowed for the collared shirt as determined by the principal. Colored trim, stripes, or decorations will not be allowed. A small logo is acceptable.



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**Question:** Can students wear a colored shirt underneath their polo shirt?

**Answer:** The policy doesn't prevent this as long as the undershirt is one of the acceptable colors: navy, white, or the selected school colors for the polos.

**Question:** Can a student wear a sweatshirt or jacket over their uniform every day or are those just to be worn during cold weather?

**Answer:** The policy allows students to wear coats, jackets, sweaters, or other appropriate outer garments of any color when necessary due to weather conditions or for other legitimate reasons. Inside the classroom, outer garments shall be removed, unzipped, or left open to allow for the school uniform to be visible.

**Question:** Are there any restrictions on jackets, hoodies, or sweatshirts?

**Answer:** The policy does not prohibit students from wearing coats, jackets, sweaters, or other appropriate outer garments of any color when necessary due to weather conditions or for other legitimate reasons. They should be the appropriate size for the student, and not overly baggy. Long overcoats, sweatshirts, or sweaters that might serve to conceal contraband shall be removed immediately upon arrival at the school or function. Inside the classroom, outer garments shall be removed, unzipped, or left open to allow for the school uniform to be visible.

**Question:** Can jackets and sweatshirts have pictures on them?

**Answer:** A small logo is acceptable as long as it isn't associated with gangs; encourages the use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol or violence, or discrimination against others. School administrators have the final authority to decide if clothing complies with district rules.

**Question:** Is there a certain shoe color students must wear?

**Answer:** No, no specific color is specified in the policy. Students in all grade levels should wear closed toe and heel athletic shoes so as to protect the entire foot. High school students may also wear sandals provided they don't interfere with the safety and welfare of the student. Platforms and shoes with wheels may not be worn.

**Question:** Does this mean that high school students can wear sandals that only have a back strap?

**Answer:** No, high school students' sandals do not have to have a backstrap. Though, principals have the discretion to determine if the shoes interfere with the safety and welfare of the student.

**Question:** Will high school students have to tuck in their shirts and wear a belt if the uniform is still neat in appearance?

**Answer:** Yes, students in all grades will be required to tuck shirts into the waistband of their shorts, pants, or skirts. Students in all grades will also be required to wear a belt that is properly fastened with their pants, shorts, or skirts that have belt loops. Exceptions are outlined in the policy.



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**Question:** Will tucked in shirts and belts for kindergarten students be left to the discretion of the principal?

**Answer:** The policy requires all students to tuck in their shirts and wear a belt if they have belt loops. Understanding there are certain issues with the younger students throughout the day, principals will have the ability to use their discretion.

**Question:** What is the acceptable length of the hem of girls' skirts or dresses is shorter than fingertips on shorts and skirts?

**Answer:** The rule says that the hem of girls' skirts or dresses shall be no shorter than mid-thigh as determined by the principal or designee in the exercise of his or her best judgment.

**Question:** Will students at such locations as PATHS and many of our Alternative Education sites who already wear uniforms be required to follow this new uniform policy?

**Answer:** No, the policy says that for safety and employment training purposes, students enrolled at the vocational-technical centers will wear the uniform of their program. It also says that Alternative Education Program students shall be required to dress in accordance with the Dress Code policy in effect already for the Alternative Education Program.

**Question:** Does the new uniform policy allow the kids to wear their ROTC uniforms to school on certain days?

**Answer:** Yes, the policy recognizes that some programs require uniforms. Continued enrollment in these programs shall be contingent on the student adhering to all uniform requirements and standards.

**Question:** Does the uniform policy apply to full-time dual enrollment students who do not attend any classes on their home campus?

**Answer:** No, This policy only applies to all students enrolled in and who attend classes at any public school under the jurisdiction of the School Board of Osceola County. This policy applies to students at all times when they attend school/classes on our campuses or any school-sponsored event.

**Question:** When a home-schooled student comes on campus for a class, will they need to comply with the uniform requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, this policy applies to all students who attend classes at any public school under the jurisdiction of the School Board of Osceola County.

**Question:** What will be the policy on team uniforms? For example, football jerseys on game days, cheerleader uniforms, softball uniforms, etc.? Will they be allowed to wear them during school hours or are they to change into them at the end of the day?

**Answer:** Students will be allowed to wear their "team" uniforms during the school day. The policy allows for students to wear a costume or special clothing necessary for a school play or other school-sponsored activity permitted by the principal.



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**Question:** How about "School Spirit Fridays?" Can students wear T-shirts with the school colors and logo on Fridays?

**Answer:** In addition to the polo, oxford, or dress shirts allowed, each school may include in its uniform dress code the option of allowing students to wear a school-sponsored T-shirt (which may have a crew neck rather than a collar) only on school days or during school events designated by the principal.

**Question:** For Friday night football games and other high school sporting events, will students have to be in dress code to attend?

**Answer:** This policy applies to students at all times when they attend school or any school-sponsored event. However, the policy allows for school principals to exercise discretion, and permit exceptions to this policy for extracurricular activities.

**Question:** How will Picture Day at the schools be handled? Will students be permitted to wear clothes other than uniforms?

**Answer:** This will be up to the principal's discretion.

**Question:** Will there be anything in the policy regarding body piercing, tattoos, etc. . . ?

**Answer:** This part of the policy did not change. Students are not allowed to wear clothing, jewelry (including body piercing jewelry and "grills"), buttons, haircuts, tattoos, or other attire or markings which are offensive, suggestive, disruptive or indecent. Except for earrings on the ears, all other body piercing jewelry/items must be removed and not concealed.

**Question:** Will there be some district guidelines about how to address the financial hardship issue?

**Answer:** Each school's principal and SAC will develop procedures and criteria to offer to assist students who would have or are having difficulty complying with the uniform dress code due to financial hardships. This might include donations of clothing, financial assistance, or a program for the reuse of uniform clothing.

**Question:** Will uniforms be required for pre-kindergarten students?

**Answer:** No, the policy the School Board adopted was for kindergarten through twelfth grade students.

**Question:** Will teachers and staff be required to wear the uniforms as well?

**Answer:** The new uniform policy is for students in grades K-12. Teachers' and staff's dress is covered under the Master Teacher Contract and the Education Staff Professionals Contract.

**Question:** How will uniform violations be handled?

**Answer:** Dress Code violations will be handled according to the Student of Conduct. Repeated violations of the Dress Code Policy shall be treated as disruptive behavior under the Code of Student Conduct.