

Lauderdale County Board of Education recognizes and understands that there is a strong correlation between appropriate attire and a positive learning environment. To help create not only the best learning environment, but also the safest the following expectations for student dress have been established. Apparel or appearance which tends to draw attention to an individual rather than the education process and learning environment must be avoided. The school administration reserves the right to determine whether the student's attire is within the limits of decency and modesty or if it is drawing undue attention thereby interfering with the learning environment. In matters of opinion, the judgment of the principal/designee shall prevail. When, in the opinion of the principal/designee, a student is not attired appropriately or exhibits grooming which constitutes a distraction and/or disturbance to the extent of being detrimental to the school environment, the principal/designee shall contact the parents and have the student dress suitably before returning to school. Inability to contact the parents will result in the student remaining in the office and/or being placed in in-school suspension or another designated area. This will serve as first warning. Repeat offenses will follow the school discipline code at the next level following the warning.

All clothing must not have holes, be cut-off, ripped or see-through and must be sized to fit. The basic dress shall be solid khaki, navy or blue denim pants, shorts, skirts or jumpers. Shirts/blouses must have a collar and be solid white, light pink, navy blue, school colors or a combination of school colors.

School colors are as follows:

Ripley High, Ripley Primary and Ripley Elementary: Purple (not lavender) and white

Lauderdale Middle: Maroon and grey

Halls High, Halls Junior High and Halls Elementary: Black and gold (not yellow)

A. Shirts/Blouses

- Must have a collar – either polo or dress shirt with collar
- Must be tucked in (This is encouraged but not required for PreK – 2 nd grade)
- Must have no logo other than a small brand or school logo
- Solid white, light pink, navy blue or school colored crew neck shirts are optional if they have a small school name, school initials or school mascot embroidered or screen printed.

B. Pants, Shorts and Skirts or Jumpers:

- Pants/shorts must be worn at the waist.
- A belt must be worn and be visible if the garment has belt loops (This is encouraged but not required for PreK – 2 nd grade)
- Sagging, bagging and skin tight fit is not allowed.
- Pant legs will not touch the floor and will not be frayed or cut.
- There is to be no writing, studs or design other than a small brand logo
- Shorts, skirts and jumpers must be knee length. This also applies to slits in skirts or dresses.

C. Footwear

- Is required and must be safe and appropriate for indoor and outdoor activity
- Must be laced, tied, strapped or hooked.
- Tennis shoes or closed toed shoes must be worn on the playground and in physical education classes.
- Sandals are permitted
- Spiked heels, rubber flip flops, bedroom slippers or house-shoes are not permitted.

D. Coats/Jackets/Sweaters

- Jackets and cardigan style sweaters must be one of the approved solid colors with no writing or a combination of school colors.
- School organizations or club jackets are acceptable.
- Trench coats are not permitted.
- Heavy coats worn to school must be placed in designated areas. Exceptions to this may be permitted in extremely cold weather, during equipment malfunction situations, or when changing classes if going from one building to another.
- Lightweight jackets or cardigan style sweaters may be worn unbuttoned or unzipped.
- Hoodies are not permitted.

E. Clothing and accessories such as backpacks, belt buckles, jewelry, tattoos, brands and notebooks must not contain:

- Racial or ethnic slurs or symbols
- Gang affiliations
- Vulgar, obscene, subversive, disruptive of the school environment, derogatory to any individual, or sexually suggestive language or images
- Promotions of products that students may not legally buy such as alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, controlled substances, weapons or weapon products.

F. The following are prohibited:

- Large, long, and/or heavy chains
- Studded or chained accessories
- Sunglasses, except for health purposes (a prescription will be required)
- Facial jewelry, designer lenses, grills
- Head apparel, except for required hats
- Sweat shirts, sweat pants and windsuits
- Hair rollers, hair picks and combs worn in the hair
- Belts that are not buckled
- Excessive makeup, facial drawings
- Distracting or unusual hairstyle and/or color

G. Extracurricular activity uniforms may not be worn during the school day.

H. ROTC, FFA and nursing uniforms may be worn on designated days approved by the principal.

I. The principal may allow exceptions for school wide programs or special classroom activities up to ten (10) days per year.