

2014 Dress Code Committee Recommendation for Changes in the Camden R-3 High School Dress Code to Be Implemented for the Upcoming School Year.

Dress Code Committee Members:

Mr. Larry Lewis, Assistant Principal, Camden High School
Mr. J.D. Hunter, Assistant Principal, Camden High School
Mrs. Julie Dinsdale, Parent
Ms. Linda Hall, Camden High School Teacher
Miss Brittany Kurtz, Camden High School Student
Mr. Billy Kurtz, Assistant Principal, Camden Middle School (observer)
Ms. Susan Manzullo, Administrative Assistant, Camden High School
Mr. Chris McElyea, School Board Member, Parent
Mrs. Jackie Schulte, School Board Member, Parent
Mr. Riley Short, Camden High School Student
Mr. Paul Sutton, Camden High School Teacher

In a unanimous vote, the Dress Code Committee proposes the following changes to the Camden High School Dress Code:

1. Allow students to have facial hair.
2. Change the length of skirts and shorts by changing the rule from measuring from the tips of a student's fingertips to the length of a student's closed fist.
3. Change what is considered appropriate should a student wear stretch pants, yoga pants, or tights. Instead of requiring clothing to hang down and cover the student's buttocks, it is requested that the student be asked to wear shorts or skirts (school appropriate) *over* the stretch pants, yoga pants, and/or tights.

Furthermore, the Dress Code Committee requests some of the following also be either added or deleted from the handbook:

Added – Regardless of whether the student's shorts or skirts are appropriate according to the newly implemented fist rule of measurement, at no point should any portion of a student's buttocks be exposed. This addition would help administration, faculty and staff keep the lower part of a student's buttocks from being exposed as is the case with some students and their attire.

Deleted – The last paragraph stating that the inspection of clothing appropriateness will be conducted by a male authority figure for male students and inspection of clothing appropriateness will be conducted by a female authority figure for a female student. This statement is not only difficult to enforce throughout the day, but it reads as if the "inspection" is an invasive procedure that should only be conducted by someone of the same sex which then implies that the inspection in itself is somehow something that should be conducted in private, which is not the case at all. Also, the rationale used would then make the first hour one-minute check ineffective any time the first hour teacher has

students in his or her class of the opposite sex – which is the case in practically every first hour class available.

The Dress Code Committee met to discuss these issues on two occasions and directed the rest of our dialogue through email. The committee members were asked to take informal polls around the community and to get opinions from a variety of stakeholders regarding these proposed changes and after discussing at length several items from the Camden R-3 High School Dress Code, the above changes were suggested.

A detailed example of the dress code changes are provided. The red words which have been struck through are last year's words. The red underlined words with no strike through are the suggested changes.

Thank you for your consideration.

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CAMDENTON HIGH SCHOOL DRESS CODE

The Camdenton High School Student Dress Code Committee has articulated the following rationale for student dress at Camdenton High School. This rationale will be explained to students at the beginning of each school year, and students will be expected to comply with the standard of dress set forth by the Camdenton R-III School District. Students failing to comply with the standards set forth by this rationale will be subject to disciplinary consequences and possible restriction from the educational environment. When dealing with issues related to student dress, Camdenton High School Administration will request the student make appropriate changes to their attire within one school day. If the student fails to comply, restriction of student privileges and/or disciplinary consequences will occur.

Rationale for the Camdenton High School Student Dress Code:

- Student attire should not interfere with the process of learning or distract students while in the learning environment.
- Student attire should reflect the standards set forth by our community and school board. While on campus during school hours or at activities, students are expected to follow the adopted dress code.
- Students preparing to enter the world of business through cooperative programs, work release, or programs of the like shall be informed of the dual standards of dress in business and industry and will be expected to comply with these standards while on the job site.

Personal Hygiene

Personal hygiene is essential life skill required of all students at Camdenton High School. Inappropriate hygiene habits can contribute to the spread of disease and create an unhealthy environment in a school. Students are expected to be clean and free of odor while at school, and students should bathe and shampoo regularly as well as use deodorant on a daily basis. Hair must be combed, clean, and well groomed. Mo-hawk type haircuts are unacceptable. ~~Male students must be clean shaven at all times, unless a student has a medical excuse from a doctor. Sideburns should not be lower than the bottom of the earlobe, and a student's hands and nails must~~ should be clean (example: wash after leaving work, physical education, and the vocational classes). If it becomes apparent that a student is violating this section on personal hygiene, the student may be required by faculty and/or administration to bathe, shampoo or groom prior to returning to the classroom. If such a request is made, an attempt shall be made to keep the request confidential.

Inappropriate Markings

Clothing and accessories may not bear alcoholic beverages, drugs, or tobacco insignias, advertisements, or writing which is provocative, profane, rude or suggestive.

Appearance

Any attire, accessories or hairstyles including marks on exposed skin, or unnatural hair color deemed to create a health, safety, or discipline concern will be considered inappropriate for school and will not be allowed.

Regulations

Students should be neat in their appearance and students should not wear anything that leads to sloppiness, such as inappropriately cut up clothing (e.g. sweatshirts, sweat pants, jeans or shirts) is not acceptable.

The following items are included to assist students in defining appropriate dress at Camdenton High School. Interpretation of the dress code will be at the sole discretion of the Camdenton High School Administration. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

Shirts and General Attire

- Appropriate sun-dresses and blouses may be worn as long as **no undergarments are exposed. Those having no straps or open backs are not acceptable.**
- Blouses and tops: **Bare waistline clothing and see-through clothing are not acceptable**, un-tucked shirts must cover the waistline at all times, tight-fitting shirts and/or low-cut apparel is not acceptable.
- Shirts may not be made of fishnet or mesh if worn alone. Shirts must be buttoned appropriately if worn alone.

Sport shirts, sweatshirts, and dress shirts will be acceptable as long as they have no undesirable writings or markings as defined above. Cutouts, tank tops or see thru clothing such as mesh shirts must be worn with a t-shirt underneath.

- Clothing meant to be worn as underwear is not acceptable.
- Girls must wear bras.
- Camisoles should be worn under semi-sheer blouses.
- Clothing meant to be worn solely as sleepwear is not acceptable.
- Students will be expected to wear appropriate footwear at all times.

Shorts and Skirts

- Skirts and shorts may be no shorter than the fingertips-end of the student's fist while standing. No spandex or tight-knit skirts will be allowed.
- Loose-fitting shorts will be allowed. Shorts may be no shorter than the fingertips-end of the student's fist while standing. Tight fitting shorts commonly referred to as bicycle pants or weight lifting pants, will not qualify as shorts under this provision and, therefore, will not be allowed, unless worn underneath clothing that complies with the dress code.
- **Leggings, yoga pants and knit pants are appropriate for the classroom so long as ~~a shirt covering the buttocks is worn~~ school approved shorts or skirt are worn over the leggings, yoga pants or knit pants.**
- Boxer shorts as outerwear are not appropriate for the classroom.

Pants

- Trousers, slacks, jeans and sweat pants should be neat, clean, and proper fitting and not inappropriately cut up or torn.
- **Holes in pants will be allowed from the knee down.** Any holes above the knee must be covered by a patch either inside or outside of the garment, and no flesh may be showing through the hole.
- Two pieces of camouflage clothing (example: shirts, jackets, pants) worn together, or one piece camouflage outfits are not acceptable.
- Sagging pants below the waistline or showing underwear or buttocks are not acceptable.

Accessories

- Hats, caps, visors, and coats are to be removed when entering the building and placed in the student's locker until the eighth hour bell rings to go home.
- Headbands/bandanas/sunglasses are not appropriate school wear.

Safety

Teachers will determine safety requirements needed in their classrooms, and students must conform in dress, accessories, and hair confinement.

Off-Campus School-Sponsored Trips

Principals and sponsors will be responsible for setting the appropriate dress for all students from their administrative unit who participate in off-campus, school-sponsored events consistent with the dress code.

The study and revision of the dress code will be an ongoing process including members of the Camdenon Student Dress Code Committee (principal, student council president, board member, and community representative). Exceptions to the grooming and dress code for health or religious reasons are considered on a case-by-case basis.

School Sponsored Uniforms or Special Activities

Exceptions to the student dress code may be made in the case of appropriate team or club uniforms, special school events, and other specific activities designated by the principal.

Enforcement of the CHS Student Dress Code

Consistent enforcement of the student dress code is critical to the culture and environment of any high school. Based on committee recommendations, the following procedures will be utilized to ensure that the standards for student dress are implemented in a fair and consistent manner:

- First Period Dress Check- While taking roll during first period, teachers will conduct a cursory check of student attire upon entering the classroom. Students violating dress code will be referred to the appropriate assistant principal.
- ~~Male attire will be inspected by a designated male faculty designee or male administrator and female student attire will be inspected by a female faculty designee or female administrator. If, in the opinion of the administrator or designee, the student is in violation of the dress code, he/she will be referred to the appropriate assistant principal.~~

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