



Hillwood High School Personal Appearance and Dress Code Revision – July 2012

Hillwood High School (HHS) and MNPS are committed to providing a safe and secure environment. In addition, a proper learning atmosphere is essential for the education of each student.

MNPS Standard School Attire (SSA) is an effective strategy to promote enhanced student appearance and behavior, which are key ingredients of a positive learning environment in which student safety and achievement are the highest priorities.

Definition of Standard School Attire as applicable to Hillwood High School

Acceptable Attire will consist of the following:

1. Pants, shorts, Capri pants, skirts, skorts or jumpers in the colors of **navy blue, black, or khaki** are permitted.
2. Shirts with short or long sleeves and a collar (polo, dress-style with buttons, or turtlenecks) are permitted.
3. All shirts are to be properly buttoned and preferably tucked inside pants, shorts, skorts or skirts.
4. Students' dress and grooming will be clean and neat. Clothes and appearance must be safe and not disruptive to the educational process.

General Requirements

1. The Standard School Attire policy for HHS will be in effect during both the school year and any academic, summer or after school programs.
2. Students will wear clothing of appropriate size. Appropriate sizes are defined as no more than one size smaller or one size larger than the student's actual clothing size. **Pants, shorts, Capri pants, skorts or skirts must fit at the waist and must not sag.**
3. All clothing must be hemmed. No drawstrings, cut-offs or rolled-up cuffs are allowed on pants, Capri pants, shorts or skirts.
4. It is recommended for students to wear a belt if the pants have belt loops. If sagging becomes an issue the student will be required to wear a belt to prevent sagging. Should the issue remain, students are subject to disciplinary action for refusal to obey.

Pants, shorts, Capri pants skirts, skorts, jumpers or dresses

1. Full-length pants, cropped pants, and straight legged Capri pants are permitted. Pants, Capri pants, and shorts must be dress-style or casual dress-style (e.g. Dockers®).
2. Pants, shorts, skirts and skorts with elastic waistbands must be worn at the waist and do not require a belt.
3. Shorts, jumpers, dresses, skirts or skorts must extend below the fingertip.
4. Dresses with short or long sleeves and a collar (polo, dress-style or turtlenecks) are acceptable.

Shirts and Tops

1. All blouses and shirts should be properly buttoned and preferably tucked inside pants or skirts.
2. Chests and midriffs must be covered.
3. T-shirts with or without sleeves may be worn as undergarments. They must be of a solid color and may not display any writing, pictures or images.

Additional Clothing

A single blazer, suit jacket, vest, sweater, cardigan or hoodie is permitted as a garment that may be worn over the Standard Attire top. These garments must be sized according to the General Requirements section of this policy. The garments must be worn over a shirt with a collar. **Under no circumstances may the hood of the hoodie be on the student's head when the student is inside the school building.**

Attire of Special Occasions

1. The executive principal may allow exceptions to the Standard School Attire policy for school wide activities.
2. The executive principal will have the authority to approve occasional variations from Standard School Attire for particular groups of students.

Footwear

Footwear must be worn at all times. Laces of shoes or sneakers must be tied. **No house shoes are allowed.**

Standard School Attire Prohibitions

1. Denim jeans, shorts, skirts, Capri pants, or dresses of any color are not permissible. This restriction does not apply to after-school activities such as athletic events.
2. Blouses or shirts without buttons along the front opening are not permissible.
3. Outerwear such as raincoats, heavy jackets, cold-weather jackets and coats may not be worn in the school.
4. Torn clothing is prohibited. In addition, no see-through clothing is to be worn.
5. Logos or manufacturer's trademarks with writing or images of substances that are illegal for teens (i.e. drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products) or are otherwise offensive, lewd, indecent, vulgar, obscene, profane, gang-related or constitute racial or ethnic slurs may not be worn.
6. Tattoos that display drugs, alcohol or tobacco products, gang or sex related words or images must not be seen at any time.
7. Chains, spiked accessories and belt buckles with concealed weapons are not permissible. Belts may not hang down as a "tail" from the belt loop.
8. Head coverings such as bandanas, scarves, sweatbands, caps, do-rags or hairnets are not to be worn in any location during school hours and at school functions.
9. Students are not to bring blankets to school.

Standard School Attire Provision

Approved head coverings worn as part of a student's bona fide religious practices or beliefs will not be prohibited under this policy. Hillwood administration reserves the right to verify any issues that arise concerning religious head coverings.

Compliance

School administrators and teachers are encouraged to use positive reinforcement to obtain compliance with the Standard School Attire requirements. However, when students fail to comply with the School Attire policy, they are subject to disciplinary action.

Subsequent and Repeated Infractions

Repeated violations of the Standard School Attire policy will be treated as disruptive behavior, refusal to obey, and or defiance of school authority. These violations may result in out-of-school suspensions as prescribed in the Student Code of Conduct, Disciplinary Due Process.

Academic Consequences

In-school suspension for violation of the Standard School Attire policy will not affect a student's academic standing.

Fresh Start

Violations of the Standard School Attire policy will not carry over from the previous school year.

Standard School Attire Exemption Policy

Hillwood High School will provide reasonable accommodation to students whose bona fide religious belief, medical condition or disability requires special clothing. Parents may consult with their child's principal if accommodations are needed.

District or campus personnel will not discriminate against any student who has been exempted from the mandatory use of Standard School Attire because of objections based on bona fide religious, medical, or disability needs.

Authority of MNPS/Hillwood High School

The District/Hillwood High School reserves the right to modify this policy as necessary. The District and individual schools reserve the right to determine what may be disruptive and unsafe.

***Hillwood administrators have the final authority to determine whether a student is out of compliance with the dress code.**