

Martin J. Ryerson Middle School
Ringwood, New Jersey
Regulation

DRESS AND GROOMING

It is recognized that the basic responsibility for the proper dress of students lies with the student and their parent or guardian. However, students are expected to wear clothing which is neat and clean, is consistent with standards of health and safety and does not disrupt learning in the classroom. The administration recognizes that certain clothing practices of students of this district threaten the ability of the school administrators and teachers to efficiently assure an atmosphere of order, discipline and safety prerequisite to providing education.

The administration reserves the right to make the final decision regarding appropriate dress in school as well as at school-sponsored functions.

1. In order to create a positive school atmosphere, attire and grooming should be reasonably modest and neat. Derogatory slogans are unacceptable, as well as shredded, ripped, cut-off, bare midriff, see-through clothing which exposes the torso, underwear as outerwear, beachwear, abbreviated leisure or athletic wear as tops or bottoms. Sleeveless tops with straps less than 2" wide, cut-out shirts, sleeveless athletic jerseys and bra straps that can be seen are unacceptable.
2. Bermuda, cargo and walking shorts are acceptable school attire; however, short shorts, cut-offs, athletic shorts, gym and exercise shorts, swim suits, skorts and mini-skirts are examples of undesirable school attire that are prohibited. Backless shoes, sandals and flip-flops are not to be worn at school, due to safety concerns. Sneakers must be worn in a way that will not cause a safety hazard.
3. In specialized areas of instruction such as shops, labs or physical education, where unique health and safety concerns exist, students will be expected to follow guidelines established by each department.
4. No coats, jackets or outerwear of any kind are permitted in halls or classrooms during the school day. These items must be kept in the student's locker.
5. Head wear of any kind is prohibited anywhere inside the school building. This includes, but is not limited to, any type of hats, visors, headbands, bandanas, curlers, picks and sunglasses.
6. Pants, slacks or shorts must be waist fitted and worn at hip level to prevent exposing bare skin and/or underwear. Pants or shorts must be worn so the entire waistband is at or above the top of the hip. The legs of pants shall extend to the top of the shoe and cannot be worn rolled up exposing the student's leg. **Pajama attire is not permitted in school.**
7. No link chains, bicycle chains, spike collars or spike bracelets may be worn in the building.
8. Any clothing that has writing or pictures suggesting violence, profanity, sexual connotations, tobacco, alcohol or drug use is not permitted.
9. Students who are unsuitably attired for school will be detained until appropriate clothing can be secured.