



A.I. du Pont Middle School: Dress Code

A.I. du Pont Middle School students are expected to dress and be groomed in such a way as to not distract or cause disruption in the educational program or orderly operation of the school. To maintain an educational environment that is safe and conducive to the educational process, students in all grades will wear the approved school dress code. A.I. du Pont Middle School believes that reasonable regulation of school attire can further important educational interests, including the following:

- reducing distractions and loss of self-esteem caused by teasing or competition over clothing
- minimizing disruptions from wearing inappropriate clothing or possessing inappropriate items at school
- providing an environment where students can focus more on learning
- enhancing school safety
- reducing the cost of school clothing
- providing an educational environment where financial disparities between students, as reflected in clothing, are minimized
- creating a greater sense of community and school pride among the students
- instilling discipline in students
- helping students and parents/legal guardians to avoid peer pressure
- helping prepare students for further roles in the workplace
- creating an atmosphere reflecting seriousness of purpose about education

While it is inevitable that there will be differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress, grooming, and/or determining whether or not a student's attire is disruptive or distracting to the educational environment of the school, the final determination will be made by the building administration. The Dress Code is in effect for students while attending school functions or school sponsored activities on or off school property. Any student who does not comply with the dress code will be removed from the regular school setting until the student complies with this code. A.I. du Pont Middle School believes that school performance and future success are enhanced by appropriate dress and good grooming. Parents/Guardians are strongly urged to work closely with the school to insure student's adherence to these standards.

General Dress Code Information:

- No Hoodies.
- A.I. du Pont Middle School shirts (A.I. spirit wear, A.I. teams, A.I. Sports, etc.)
- Polo style shirt (any solid color) with no logo
- Dockers/uniform style pants (blue, black, or brown/tan only) or corduroy pants (blue, black, or brown only). No denim. No skinnies. No 'rips'.
- "Reasonable length" shorts will be considered acceptable wear if they are Dockers/uniform style (blue, black, or brown/tan only)
- Only Non-Hooded A.I. du Pont Middle School sweatshirts may be worn. Non-A.I. sweatshirts are not permitted to be worn.
- On PE days dress code clothing appropriate to physical activity is required. Sneakers are required.
- *Any article of clothing with writing on it is unacceptable.*

Girls have an additional option of wearing dresses and skirts

- Dresses and skirts (blue, black, or brown/tan only) must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee (both front and back).
- No denim skirts are allowed. No overly tight skirts are allowed.
- Slits in the skirt are to be no higher than 2 inches above the hem.

- Slits on long skirts/dresses may not extend above the knee.

Additional Safety/Clarifying Comments:

- Clothing must be solid color and must be in good condition. For example, the hem at the bottom of pants may not be intentionally cut or torn.
- Appropriate and safe footwear must be worn at all times. Shoes must have a "closed back" for safety reasons. House slippers and flip-flops are not appropriate in school or at school functions.
- Hats, headbands, *head coverings and ear coverings are not to be worn in the building during school hours.
- Any garment deemed inappropriately tight, short, or revealing is prohibited. For example, polo shirts must fit so that they may be easily buttoned. Any attire that is disruptive to the educational process is prohibited. Attire that is unsafe, unhealthy, offensive to generally accepted standards, or obscene is not to be worn. Decals, slogans, or pictures that contain references to illegal substances (i.e. e. alcohol, drugs, etc.) or immoral behavior are not allowed.
- Accessories such as obtrusive jewelry, dangling scarves, and large belts are not permitted.
- Pants worn in a "Sag and Drag" fashion (pants worn below the waist to the extent that the underwear and/or skin is/could be exposed) are not permitted in school or at school functions.
- Cargo shorts and cargo pants are not permitted in our dress code. They have baggy pockets and are loose, permitting free movement. In most cases, close fit pockets will be considered acceptable wear and may be worn.
- Polo style shirts must always be worn under sweatshirts.
- An additional layer of solid color clothing such as turtlenecks or long sleeve thermals may be worn under the polo style shirt for warmth.
- Team uniforms are appropriate to wear on game day only. Sleeveless uniforms (like basketball, track, etc.) must have a solid, white T-shirt underneath.
- Solid color, long sleeve, V-neck or crew neck sweaters are permitted to be worn only with a solid colored polo underneath. *A dress code approved polo must be worn underneath.* Cardigans are permitted. Like the polo, the sweater must be solid in color.

*Head coverings may be worn for religious and cultural purposes.

Items not specifically covered in the above list of dress code regulations will be at the complete discretion of building administration to approve.