

**Wicomico County Schools**  
**Consistent Attire Program Policy Statement**  
**Policy Approved: Tuesday, April 10, 2012**

This policy is designated to identify what may be worn in school during the regular school day. All students should take pride in their appearance with dress and grooming that contribute to the health and safety of the individual without disrupting the orderly educational process. The Consistent Attire Program Policy is in effect during the instructional day and during academic and professional activities outside the school day when students are representing the school. This policy is not subject to interpretation. It is intended to eliminate questions on what can and cannot be worn.

Students will wear a consistent attire of dress based upon the following standards:

**Tops:** Long sleeve/short sleeve oxford, polo shirt, turtleneck in solid white, navy, light blue, gray or school color\* (elementary only)

1. All shirts must have a collar and must be tucked in or worn at mid hip. During normal routine activities like raising arms or bending over, no skin or undergarments should be visible between the waistband of the pants and the bottom of the shirt.
2. Crewneck, Cardigan, V-neck sweaters, vest or fleece pullovers in navy blue may be worn with the appropriate collared shirt underneath.
3. Solid color turtlenecks (white, navy, light blue, gray or school color) are permitted under the appropriate collared shirt.
4. Hooded attire is not permitted at any time.
5. No logo or writing is allowed on the shirt. (School Mascot Logos are permitted.)
6. All tops should be of appropriate size so as not to cause stretching or gapping of the material. Tops should not be tight to the skin or baggy.

\*The nine schools approved for CAP have selected one individual school color for shirts in addition to the standard colors of white, navy, light blue and gray:

**Yellow:** Beaver Run Elementary, Pemberton Elementary, Pinehurst Elementary, Prince Street Elementary

**Dark Blue:** Charles H. Chipman Elementary

**Orange:** Delmar Elementary

**Royal Blue:** North Salisbury Elementary, Wicomico Early Learning Center (WELC)

**Maroon:** West Salisbury Elementary

**Bottoms:** Navy blue, black or Khaki style pants, capris, walking shorts, skirts, skorts or jumpers

1. Skirts, dresses and jumpers (being no shorter than 3" above the top of the knee while standing), skorts and shorts (no shorter than 5" above the top of the knee while standing) can be worn.
2. Clothing items must be worn at the natural waist (above the hips).
3. A solid color belt must be worn if clothing item has belt loops. Belts may not be accessorized, have adornments or have decorative belt buckles.
4. Clothing items must not be cargo style, have multiple zippers or pockets, or have any adornments.
5. All bottoms should be of appropriate size so there is not stretching or gapping of the material. Bottoms should not be tight to the skin or baggy.
6. Jeans are not permitted.

### **Legwear:**

1. Solid color white, tan, natural, black, gray or navy blue socks, tights, or pantyhose may be worn.
2. Leggings should fit so they are not tight to the skin or baggy (leggings and tights are not appropriate bottoms).

### **Footwear:**

1. Shoes must be worn at all times. Footwear must be appropriate for the student's designated activity- such as tennis shoes for PE and shoes that are safe for running and climbing on the playground.
2. Shoes that are closed in the back or have a back strap.
3. Slippers and flip-flops are not permitted.

### **Clarifying Statements:**

1. Sleeveless shirts, t-shirts, tank tops, lounge wear, or pajamas are not permitted.
2. Hats, head coverings, visors, scarves or sunglasses are not to be worn in the building unless for religious or medical reasons (documentation required).
3. Cut-offs, frayed seams, and holes are not permitted on any clothing.
4. Students must remove and store all outerwear in the place designated by their teacher when they enter the building.
5. **Store or brand logos or signs are not permitted to be visible on tops.**
6. **Jeans are not permitted as bottoms.**

### **School Pictures:**

School pictures are taken twice a year. When pictures are taken students have a choice of wearing their consistent attire or dressing in Non-Consistent Attire as long as it follows the Wicomico County Dress Code Policy.

### **After School Activities:**

1. Students who attend activities directly after school (STARS, MAST, Kids Club, etc.) should continue to wear the clothing that was worn during the school day.
2. When students return to school in the evening, their parents may choose whether they return in the apparel they wore to school that day or if they wear Non-CAP attire. If Non-CAP attire is worn, it must meet the Wicomico County Dress Code Policy.
3. Some activities, such as concerts, may specify a different type of clothing.

### **Physical Education Classes:**

1. Athletic shoes or tennis shoes are required.
2. Skirts or jumpers should not be worn unless shorts are underneath.
3. Students will wear the clothing for class that they wore to school that day. (elementary)

### **Non-CAP Days:**

Administrative decisions will be made for school-wide incentives.

### **Procurement:**

Procurement can come from any vendor meeting the basic requirements as stated above.

### **Procedure for Approval:**

All parents/guardians will be surveyed to determine if they are in favor of students wearing consistent attire. At the high school level, students shall be included in the decision to mandate the wearing of consistent attire. If at least 70% of the parent surveys are returned and 60% of those parents are in favor of consistent attire, the plan will be submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

### **Procedure for Discontinuing:**

All parents/guardians will be surveyed at the end of the **first year** to determine if they are in favor of discontinuing consistent attire. If at least 70% of the parent surveys are returned and 60% of those parents are in favor of discontinuing consistent attire, the plan will be submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

### **Measures of Success:**

Each school will look at discipline numbers overall and compare them to the previous year, as well as, survey parents. Staff members will also be surveyed in each school to assess the school atmosphere/climate.

### **Consequences for Violation (Adopted from WCBOE Dress Code Policy):**

- First Offense:
  - Student conference with administrator to discuss the violation and review the Consistent Attire Program
  - Parent contact by the administrator to discuss the violation of the policy and subsequent consequences should more violations occur
  - Change of clothing by student to rectify the violation (provided by the student or parent)
  - Student will be placed in ISS until appropriate clothing is secured
- Second Offense:
  - Student conference with an administrator to discuss the violation and review the Consistent Attire Program
  - Parent contact by the administrator to discuss the violation of the policy and subsequent consequences should more violations occur
  - Change of clothing by student to rectify the violation (provided by the student or parent)
  - Student discipline disposition at the discretion of the administrator
  - Student will be placed in ISS until appropriate clothing is secured
- Third and Additional Offenses:
  - Student conference with an administrator to discuss the violation and review the Consistent Attire Program
  - Parent contact by the administrator to discuss the violation of the policy and subsequent consequences should more violations occur
  - Change of clothing by student to rectify the violation (provided by the student or parent)
  - Student assignment to in-school or out-of-school suspension day(s) (at the discretion of the administrator while utilizing progressive discipline)
  - Student will be placed in ISS until appropriate clothing is secured