

CMS Dress Code Policy

The Catasauqua Area School District believes the manner in which a student dresses is one of many factors for establishing an environment conducive to student learning and behavior. Our objective is for students to develop an understanding of the importance of appropriate attire for school and the professional environment. The school has an obligation to establish proper standards for appropriate attire among students. Under State guidelines, schools have the right and responsibility to take action against improper dress which is a disruption or distraction to the educational environment, is a health or safety hazard, is obviously and blatantly indecent, displays students in a socially unacceptable manner or is damaging to the school.

Ultimately, the school-established standards for appropriate student attire and personal grooming are the responsibility of each student and his or her parents/guardians. We require compliance with the following expectations for student appropriate school attire. Students failing to comply will not be permitted to attend classes until a parent or guardian has reported to the middle school and provided their child with clothing that meets the established policy.

Dress Code:

- Clothing and accessories promoting, advertising, or displaying alcohol, tobacco, illegal substances, weapons, and anything obscene or sexually suggestive is not permitted.

Bottoms:

- All pants, capris, shorts, and skirts must be worn on or just below the natural waistline. No wording across the backside.
- Shorts, dresses, and skirts must come to mid-thigh in length or longer.
- Holes, cuts, tears, rips, sheer, see-through, mesh or lace materials are not allowed above mid-thigh.
- Pajamas, sleepwear, and lounge pants are not permitted.*
- Underwear should not be visible while sitting or standing.
- Anything with sharp edges or spikes is not permitted.

Tops:

- Tops or base-layers need to cover the entire chest/cleavage area, including all sides immediately below the underarms.
- Halter tops, strapless or spaghetti straps are not permitted.
- Midriff, back below the shoulder blades, bra straps, and sports bras must be completely covered.

Footwear and Accessories:

- Footwear must be worn at all times. Bedroom slippers*, cleats, spikes, high-heeled and platform shoes are not permitted.
- Head coverings including hoods, bandanas, sweatbands, and hats are not permitted, except by permission for religious or medical reasons.
- Winter coats, heavy jackets, gloves, hats, and sunglasses should be kept in lockers and should not be worn in the building.
- Hazardous items such as a wrist, ankle, or neck band with spikes or sharp edges, heavy or thick neck chains, and waist or wallet chains are not permitted.
- The use and visibility of headphones/earbuds are restricted during the school day, unless under the direction/supervision of a staff member.

* Exceptions may be made for special events throughout the school year.