DSST: Byers High School Dress Code 2020-21

DSST: Byers has a policy on dress and is crafted with the following beliefs in mind:

1. **Respect:** We are proud that our Mission leads us to create integrated schools. People grow more when they are working with and getting to know people who are different from them and, therefore, have unique perspectives. We want to celebrate this diversity while recognizing that each culture and each individual has a different view on how students should dress. We have crafted a Policy on Dress that we believe allows students to express their individuality while still respecting the diverse beliefs and values of everyone in our community.

2. **Community and Inclusiveness:** Our Dress Code gives us a commonality that allows students to identify as members of this community while still expressing their individuality. It is our belief that this dress code will allow people inside and outside of the community to recognize our commonalities while celebrating our differences.

3. **Transparency Regarding Impact of Appearance:** Appearance matters, and people make assumptions about other people based on what people are wearing (this is reality even if we would wish it to be otherwise). Our Dress Code is constructed to promote the practice of intentionally dressing for various situations and environments (understanding context).

4. **Safety:** We are committed to student safety and have crafted a Policy on Dress that reflects necessary safety requirements and ensures that all students feel physically and psychologically safe in our environment.

**Weekly Overview**

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*other Days may be designated as Dress Down Days

All final decisions about appropriate dress are at the discretion of the DSST: Byers High School Dean of Students, Associate School Director, and/or School Director.
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Daily Dress Code *Monday- Thursday

**Tops**

**What TO Wear:**
- **Collared Tops**- All shirts that have a collar are considered in dress code.
- **Spirit/College Wear**- All DSST Byers HS spirit wear or college spirit wear are in dress code.
- **Outerwear**- Track jackets, half zips, jean jackets, and hoodies are considered in dress code. No hoods should be worn up while in school.

**What NOT to Wear:**
- **No tops that reveal back, belly, chest, sides or undergarments** (including “muscle tees,” and see-through straps)
- **No T-shirts** that are not plain or DSST Byers HS/college spirit wear/DPS HS sports team wear.
- **No halter or strapless tops**- All tops must be structurally supported by the shoulders.

**Bottoms**

**What TO Wear:**
- **Jeans/Pants**- Jean, khaki or dress material pants that reach the mid-calf and ensure that undergarments and privates are not visible. Bottoms should be worn at waist level.
- **Dresses/Skirts**- Skirts and dresses may be worn if they are conducive to all school activities (sitting on the floor, kneeling, active electives, going outside, etc.). All top rules apply to dresses as well. General guidance is that dresses or skirts should fall lower than fingertip length with arms fully extended.

**What NOT to Wear:**
- **No sagging bottoms**- Bottoms must always be worn at or above waist level and never “sagging” below the waist. Undergarments should not be revealed.
- **No shorts**- Shorts of any material, style, or length are not allowed.
- **No ripped clothing**- No ripped, torn, or holes in pants are permitted. This includes “fashion rip” and “fashion frays” on jeans
- **No athletic bottoms (leggins/yoga pants/sweats/basketball shorts)**- These bottoms cannot be worn in place of pants. (Leggings are classified as pants without zippers, pockets and/or belt loops).

**Shoes**

**What TO Wear:**
- **Hard Soled, Closed-Toed Shoes**- Any color/design are permitted. Shoes need to be sturdy and safe for lab participation and should have a hard sole.
- **Shoes of appropriate height and support**- Shoes should be conducive to all school activities (active electives, labs, going outside, emergency situation, etc.).

**What NOT to Wear:**
- **No open-toed shoes** including sandals, slippers, slides or crocs.
- **No slipppers** or slipper-like shoes.

**Other**

- Earrings are acceptable, but are not to be distracting. Other piercings are permitted, but are not to be distracting.
- Tattoos are permitted as long as they are not offensive or promote violence, alcohol, gangs, tobacco, or drugs.
- Scarves are permitted.
- Hats and hoods on heads are not permitted, except outdoors.
- Text on clothing or accessories that is offensive, promotes violence, alcohol, gangs, tobacco, drugs, or that is derogatory in any way is not permitted at any time.

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Friday & Dress Down Day Guidelines
All items listed above in the normal day dress code may be worn on Fridays and dress down days.

**Tops***
- Same as daily dress code tops rules with following additions:
  - Appropriate T-shirts can be worn (on College Dress Down Days, top MUST be college-based to participate).
  - Jerseys may be worn.

**Bottoms***
- Same as daily dress code bottoms rules with following additions:
  - Yoga pants, sweat pants, and basketball shorts may be worn
  - Ripped jeans that do not expose undergarments or private areas are acceptable.

*All expectations stated in “other” are also the same on dress down days as they are on normal school days.

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PE & Fitness/Wellness Electives
All expectations (eg. tears in clothes, length/transparency of tops) are also the same in PE & Fitness/Wellness Electives as they are on normal school days.

**Tops**
- T-shirts and athletic shirts are permitted.
  - Tops that expose mid-sections are not permitted.
  - Tops are not to be transparent.
- Fleeces, sweatshirts and hoodies are only acceptable if class is outside.

**Bottoms**
- Students must wear athletic shorts or athletic pants.
- Athletic shorts are permitted.
- Athletic pants must sufficiently conceal undergarments and/or private areas.

**Shoes**
- Students must wear socks and athletic shoes or sneakers.

“Special Dress Code Additions” may occur for spirit weeks, themed dress down days, and during presentations that require more professional attire.

DSST: Byers HS leadership reserves the right to interpret the dress code in terms of what qualifies as professional in light of our goals, school culture and core values. We will communicate with these ongoing clarifications transparently and openly with students and families.