

### **Staff Dress Code**

We, the Gainesville City District family, aim high to create a warm and inviting environment. We want every reflection of our brand to be consistent with our tradition of excellence. As a member of this family, your appearance is a reflection of the GCSS brand and how we show up collectively is important to our community. At the same time, we want to build a district where individuality, empowerment, and inclusion are nurtured. With this balance in mind, we have updated our dress code. If you have questions about what this means for you, talk with your building administration. And, thank you for all you bring to the GCSS family every day.

Our dress code is generally based on what is commonly described as “business casual.” Gentlemen may wear dress pants, slacks, or khaki pants. Their shirts should have collars, sleeves, and be tucked in. Ties are optional but encouraged. Ladies may wear dress pants, slacks, or khaki pants. They may also wear dresses or skirts of appropriate length and coverage. Blouses or shirts should provide appropriate coverage, including covering the shoulder. Leggings may be worn with a top of appropriate length. All clothing should be clean and neat. Shoes should be worn that provide comfort and safety. We suggest slip-resistant shoes to avoid falls. Our staff should project a professional image that supports the learning environment.

For further clarity it is helpful to provide examples on a “we don’t wear list.” On this list are examples of the things we don’t wear.

#### **We Don’t Wear...**

- athletic or workout clothing, including yoga pants or tops.
- shorts.
- spaghetti straps, strapless, or tank tops.
- clothing that allows the exposure of our midriff or waist.
- leggings with casual tops that do not look professional.
- flip-flops.
- jeans except on designated “spirit days” or with administrative approval.
- clothing that fits immodestly.
- clothing that causes distractions to our mission (examples: clothing with inappropriate language, pictures or symbols; clothing depicting gangs, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; clothing that advocates/promote violence).

Fridays are our designated “spirit days.” Staff members may choose on Fridays to wear jeans as a part of their spirit day attire. Staff members who wear jeans for spirit day must also wear a school spirit shirt with their jeans. School spirit shirts may be from teachers’ respective schools or they may be Gainesville High School spirit wear shirts. School spirit shirts may simply be school-colored shirts.

In addition to Fridays, principals may choose to offer one additional jeans day per month. These jeans days are offered at the discretion of the building principal and may be used as rewards for reaching certain goals.

PE teachers may wear attire appropriate for effective PE instruction. However, their clothing should still reflect our tradition of excellence and distinguish them from students.

There may be instances for which exceptions to the dress code would be warranted, such as for staff members in specialized areas such as physical education, for field trips or field days. However, any changes of the staff dress code require administrative approval and should only be made because the occasion necessitates a change in attire. For example, a trip to the capitol would not warrant an exception to the dress code. In fact, it would be expected that when our staff is seen on field trips such as to the capitol that their attire would clearly distinguish them and reflect our tradition of excellence. The same would be true for staff members attending conferences, trainings, or workshops. However, a field trip to the pumpkin farm or to go spelunking may warrant exceptions to the staff dress code.

### **Student Dress Code**

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Our dress code is generally based on what we like to think of as “school appropriate.” All clothing must fit modestly and provide appropriate coverage and length. Shoes should be safe for the school environment.

For further clarity it is helpful to provide examples on a “we don’t wear list.” On this list are examples of the things we don’t wear.

#### **We Don’t Wear...**

- pajama attire, sleepwear, or bedroom footwear.
- spaghetti straps, backless, strapless, or tank tops.
- clothing that allows the exposure of our midriff or waist.
- hats, caps, or hoods inside.
- clothing in a way that reveals underwear.
- clothing that fits immodestly.
- clothing that causes distractions to our mission (examples: clothing with inappropriate language, pictures or symbols; clothing depicting gangs, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; clothing that advocates/promote violence).

*The school administration has the discretion to render judgments regarding what is and what is not appropriate, The administration may, if necessary, waive these policy restrictions for religious and/or medical situations. Principals and assistant principals will determine what happens when a student does not comply with our dress code. A student may be sent home to dress appropriately or may be required to wear a change of clothing provided by the school or parents/guardians.*