

# Mark Twain Middle School

## Dress Code

In an effort to clarify our school dress code, we have put together this information to help you and your student understand the rules and how we apply them.

### Consequences:

If a student is found to be wearing clothing that is in violation of the dress code, they will be sent to the main office and politely asked if they have other clothing they can put on. If that does not solve the problem, we have t-shirts here in the main office for students to borrow or they can borrow suitable clothing from a friend. If those solutions do not work, then we will have students call home to have them bring suitable clothing. In extreme cases where none of the above actions solve the problem, we will send the student home. Repeated offenses will result in a DAN.

### Dress code summary for girls:

- An adequate coverage of the body is required. Halter tops, spaghetti-strap tank tops, muscle shirts, midriff, or other-wise revealing tops, exposed underwear, and very short skirts are inappropriate.
- Tank tops may be worn as long as they are two-fingers wide across the top. Spaghetti-strapped tank tops or other tops revealing cleavage or midriff section are not allowed.
- Shorts are allowed as school attire provided that they are loose fitting and mid-thigh lengths for classroom wear. Shorts and skirts must extend fully to fingertips when arms are at students sides, even when tights or leggings are worn underneath. Jeans should not have cuts or tears exposing areas around the waist. Cut-offs and bathing suits are not allowed.
- Clothing decorated or marked with illustrations, words, or phrases that have sexual innuendoes, are vulgar, obscene, or promote behavior violating school conduct standards is not permitted. Youth gang-related symbols, colors, or insignias are not allowed. Clothing decorated or marked with illustrations, words, or phrases that are disruptive or potentially disruptive, and/or that promote superiority of one group over another is not permitted.
- Leggings may be worn with the following exceptions: Because of this thinner material, we are asking that students treat them like they would nylons or tights and wear an appropriate length shirt, tunic, or skirt. (Appropriate length is one that extends to fingertips when hands are held at the sides of legs.)

### Dress code summary for boys:

- An adequate coverage of the body is required. Tank tops, muscle shirts, and exposed underwear are not allowed.
- Clothing decorated or marked with illustrations, words, or phrases that have sexual innuendoes, are vulgar, obscene, or promote behavior violating school conduct

standards is not permitted. Youth gang-related symbols, colors, or insignias are not allowed. Clothing decorated or marked with illustrations, words, or phrases that are disruptive or potentially disruptive, and/or that promote superiority of one group over another is not permitted.

- Shorts are allowed as school attire provided that they are loose fitting and mid-high length for classroom wear. Cut-offs and bathing suits are not allowed.
- Pants are to be sufficiently tight around the waist. Boxers should not be exposed. Students with sagging pants will be asked to call home for a belt.

### Dress code issues for all students:

Certain clothing, personal property, and other adornments worn for the purpose of identifying youth gang membership or youth gang support clearly interfere with the learning process and school climate and ARE NOT ALLOWED.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- 1.1 Clothing with gang stylized writing/script listing nicknames and other wording.
- 1.2 Clothing displaying drug or alcohol symbols or paraphernalia.
- 1.3 All adornments such as necklaces or buttons that are drug or gang related.
- 1.4 Clothing decorated with gang associated numbers 12, 13, 14, 18 or the same numbers in reverse order.
- 1.5 Dress in a single solid color.
- 1.6 Certain head gear i.e. hairnets, wraps, bandanas (of any color), hanging belts and gloves worn indoors.
- 1.7 Gang associated tattoos.

#### Misc. Items:

- Clothing that could be harmful to self or others (e.g. studded collars or chains).
- Schools may require that students leave clothing in their locker if that clothing could be worn to camouflage weapons or to intimidate others.
- Other items left to the discretion of the principal.

### Questions?

We work very hard to maintain an academic and professional atmosphere here at Mark Twain Middle School. It is one of the most important things we do and we want to work cooperatively with our parents. If you have any questions about the dress code please feel free to call Nancy Griffith or Christie DeSantis at (503) 873-5317.

Unfortunately, we have no way of knowing what fashion trends will be each year. We try to anticipate student interest each year when the Student Handbook is being written, however, it is difficult to address all dress code issues until students are in the building.