

IHGMS Student Handbook - Dress Code Excerpt

Student Dress Code

Iber Holmes Gove Middle School student dress code supports equitable educational access and is written in a manner that does not reinforce stereotypes.

Iber Holmes Gove Middle School expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. Student dress choices should respect the District's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities. The school district is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, that student attire does not create a disruption or distraction to teaching and learning, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body type/size. Any restrictions to the way a student dresses must be necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and must be explained within this dress code.

Our values are:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without the need to be dress coded, provided they are following the dress code.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal "distractions" without regulating individual students' clothing/self expression within the dress code.
- Student dress code enforcement should not result in unnecessary barriers to school attendance.
- School staff should be trained and able to use student/body-positive language to explain the code and to address code violations.
- Reasons for conflict and inconsistent and/or inequitable discipline should be minimized whenever possible

Our student dress code is designed to accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective and/or supportive clothing is needed, such as science (eye or body protection), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable and is appropriate for school within the dress code.
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that denote, suggest, display or reference alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia or other illegal substances, conduct or activities.

- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that will interfere with the operation of the school, disrupt the educational process, invade the rights of others, or create a reasonably foreseeable risk of such interference or invasion of rights.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that reasonably can be construed as being or including content that is racist, lewd, vulgar or obscene, or that reasonably can be construed as containing fighting words, speech that incites others to imminent lawless action, defamatory speech, or threats to others.
- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.

Students Must Wear :

- A Shirt (with fabric covering the front, back, and on the sides under the arms),
- Pants/jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts),
- Articles of clothing that will cover all underwear, and undergarments
- Shoes . All students must wear appropriate footwear that is not dangerous or harmful.

Students May Wear:

- Religious headwear
- Fitted pants, leggings, yoga pants and “skinny jeans”
- Ripped jeans, as long as the rips are not in the area that would normally be covered by school approved shorts or skirts.
- Shirts with at minimum a one inch strap.
- Athletic attire (cheerleading skirt must have shorts underneath, to meet dress code guidelines).
- Shorts or skirts that are at least mid-thigh in length.

Students May Not Wear:

- Caps, hats, and other headgear in compliance with School Board Policy JICA
- Tank tops (with less than 1 inch strap)
- Spaghetti strap shirts
- Violent language or images.
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity).
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups.
- Accessories that could be injurious to oneself or others
- Any clothing that reveals undergarments

- Swimsuits.
- Any item that obscures the face or ears (except as a religious observance).
- Shirts that allow mid drift to be exposed (crop tops)

Dress Code Enforcement:

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below. School administration and staff shall not have discretion to vary the requirements in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement. The administration will issue directives on inappropriate apparel as the need arises. Families are urged to assist the school in monitoring the clothing which students wear to school.

- Students will not be called out in front of other students in classrooms about perceived dress code violations but rather be asked to go to nurse's office, at the start of the class, at the end of the class, during homeroom, or transition periods.
- Students who are asked to go to the nurse's office as a result of a dress code violation will:
 - Be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
 - If necessary, students' parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.
 - If they don't have alternative clothing, and they don't want to call their parents for clothing, then students will be offered temporary school clothing to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
- If you see a dress code violation after lunch please remind the student that their attire is not appropriate but at that time changing will not be necessary.
- These dress code guidelines shall apply to regular school days as well as any school-related events and activities, such as athletic events, field trips, dances and other school sponsored events.
- Students who feel they have been subject to discriminatory enforcement that is outside of the dress code, should contact the Assistant Principal.

No student should be affected by dress code enforcement because of racial identity, sex assigned at birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity.

Students who refuse to follow the dress code and/or repeatedly violate the dress code could be subject to disciplinary action.

While the dictates of fashion may pressure students to wear certain items of clothing, these items may in fact be disruptive in a school setting or present a safety concern. The administration will issue directives on inappropriate apparel as the need arises. Families are urged to assist the school in monitoring the clothing which students wear to school. We must strive to maintain an appropriate educational environment that is neither offensive nor distracting. The enforcement of the above regulation is at the discretion/interpretation of the building principal.

[Raymond School Policy-JICA](#) - When the dress of an individual student constitutes a health problem, is unsuitable for school wear, is a danger to any person, or causes a substantial and

material disruption or substantial disturbance, the principal shall take appropriate action to correct the situation.