

# McKeesport Area School District

Proposed Dress Code Policy Overview

Presented February 15, 2012



**SCHOOL IS SERIOUS BUSINESS**  
**DRESS FOR SUCCESS**

# Why have a MASD Dress Code?



*The purpose for implementing this dress code policy for all students in grades Kindergarten through twelfth is to strengthen the learning environment for classroom instruction and academic performance.*

# Dress Code Committee



## Administrators

~Rula Skesas, Admin.  
~Michael Matta, Admin.  
~Jane Coughenour, Admin.  
~Mark Holtzman, H.S.  
~Karen Chapman, F.H.  
~Pamela Gordon, McClure  
~Paul Sweda, G.W.

## Teachers

~Christine Shank, G.W  
~Michelle Richardson, H.S.  
~Brie Adams, F.H.  
~Bonnie Butler, H.S.  
~Myleen Kiska, H.S.  
~Michael Cherepko, McClure

## Parents

~Myleen Kiska, H.S.  
~Connie Lakovic, H.S., F.H.  
~Comocrea Johnson, G.W.  
~ Loree Scharritter, McClure, W.O.  
~Michelle Cottone, H.S., F.H.  
~Christine Shank, W.O.  
~Michael Cherepko, W.O  
~Jeanine D'Amico, H.S.

# Dress Code Policy Stages of Progression



- ~School Leaders brought to the attention of Upper Administration that student apparel was a problem and disrupting the learning process.
- ~Upper Administration called upon the School Leaders to construct teams that would research other districts' dress code policies. These teams, along with the School Leaders, united to become the Dress Code Committee.
- ~School Leaders and Building Representatives held building level meetings to discuss the proposal and compile suggestions. Also, parents' opinions were collected at PTA meetings.
- ~The Dress Code Committee met and compiled building level ideas and parents' opinions, and the MASD Dress Code Proposal was formed.
- ~ School Leaders invited parents of their students to join the Dress Code Committee for editing and revising.
- ~The Dress Code Committee came to the decision that two policies would be best, one K-6<sup>th</sup> and one 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.



# Proposed 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Dress Code



## Boys

- ~All tops must be a solid color with a collar and a sleeve. This includes sweaters.
- ~Logos are permissible if they are small and located near the pocket or on the sleeve of the shirt.
- ~ All pants must be shades of black, blue, and brown/tan.
- ~All shorts must be knee length in the same shades.
- ~All bottoms must have a finished hem.
- ~Dress shoes, boots, tennis shoes, and sandals are permitted.

## Girls

- ~All tops must be a solid color with a collar and a sleeve. This includes sweaters and jumpers.
- ~Logos are permissible if they are smaller and located near the pocket or on the sleeve of the shirt.
- ~ All pants must be shades of black, blue, and brown/tan.
- ~All shorts and skirts must be knee length in the same shades.
- ~All bottoms must have a finished hem.
- ~Dress shoes, boots, tennis shoes, and sandals are permitted.

# Founders' Hall's Students' Opinions on the Idea of a Dress Code

"It is not a bad idea, but I think that it is really going to anger a lot of kids."

-Shawn, 14

"Why can we not wear jeans?"

-Adam, 13

"I am so glad that boys will not be able to sag their pants anymore!"

-Lauren, 13

"As long as I can still wear Aero (Aeropostale), I will be fine!"

-Tre, 14

"Um....I don't care."

-Michael, 14

"It is not as bad as everyone thinks that it will be."

-Austin, 14

"Pitiful and unnecessary"

-Khaleel, 13

"I do not like it! We should be allowed to wear whatever we like."

-Bre, 14

"You can still swag in a polo, khakis, and Air Forces."

-Keshon, 14

"I am glad that we can still accessorize!"

-Jariah, 14

# The High School's Students' Opinions on the Idea of a Dress Code

~ "Dress to impress."

-Steve, 16

~ "It may be a nice thing."

-George, 15

~ "When you are dressed better, you act better."

-Erin, 16

~ "People will not be able to ridicule each other about their clothes."

-David, 15

~ "It would probably stop people from talking about people's clothing; we would all look the same."

-Frieda, 16

~ "People don't want to wear the same thing."

-Elijah, 17

~ "You will have a better looking and professional tone in school."

-Lydia, 16

~ "I think it is stupid."

-Brittany, 16

# Potential Future of the MASD



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# Prohibited Attire ~ 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>



- ~Denim
- ~Flip Flops
- ~Sleeveless Shirts
- ~Hooded Tops
- ~Anything Cut-off or With Holes
- ~Leggings/Jeggings/Yoga Pants
- ~Sweat Pants/Jogging Pants/Gym Shorts
- ~Nylon/Spandex/Velour
- ~Fishnet or Patterned Stockings
- ~Cropped or Low-Cut Tops
- ~Pajama Bottoms
- ~Slippers





# Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dress Code



# Proposed Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dress Code

## Boys

- ~All tops must be a solid color with a collar and a sleeve.
- ~Denim and pants are permitted in any shades of blue, black, and brown/tan.
- ~Dress shoes, boots, tennis shoes, and sandals are permitted.

## Girls

- ~All tops must be a solid color with a collar and a sleeve.
- ~ Denim and pants are permitted in any shades of blue, black, and brown/tan.
- ~It is recommended that dresses and jumpers have a collar.
- ~Dress shoes, boots, tennis shoes, and sandals are permitted.



# Elementary Opinions on Dress Code

~ “I wouldn’t mind it as long as I could wear different colors.”

- Ileana, Age 9

~ “We shouldn’t do it; we should be ourselves.”

- Na’yla, age 9

~ “I wouldn’t really like dressing up.”

-Ryan, Age 9

~ “I would like it.... It’s just like wearing regular clothes.”

- Tionni, Age 8

~ “I guess if we did it, I would be okay with it. I wouldn’t hate it.”

- Noah, age 8

# Potential Future of the MASD



# Potential Future of the MASD



# Prohibited Attire ~ Kindergarten – 6th



- ~Flip Flops
- ~Sleeveless Shirts
- ~Hooded Tops
- ~Anything Cut-off or With Holes
- ~Leggings/Jeggings/Yoga Pants
- ~Sweat Pants/Jogging Pants/Gym Shorts
- ~Nylon/Spandex/Velour
- ~Fishnet or Patterned Stockings
- ~Cropped or Low-Cut Tops
- ~Pajama Bottoms
- ~Slippers



# Community Resources for Successful Implementation



- ~McKeesport NAACP Unit
- ~Prominent Local Political Figures
- ~Local Retail Stores
- ~Fashion Shows
- ~School Sales





# Methods of Delivery



- ~ MASD Website
- ~ InMcKeesport Magazine
- ~ Tri-Fold Informational Pamphlet
- ~ Local Media, i.e.: The Daily News, WTAE, WPXI, KDKA
- ~ Local Churches
- ~ Kindergarten Registration
- ~ Signage in Local Establishments
- ~ Fashion Show