

STUDENT DRESS CODE

While taste and style contribute to an individual's choice of attire, there are certain rules pertaining to dress that every student at Babylon Jr.-Sr. High School must adhere to throughout the school year. Overall, a student's dress, grooming and personal appearance including hairstyle, jewelry, makeup and nails must be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.

The following dress code has been established for students in grades 7 - 12.

1. Undergarments including but not limited to underwear such as boxers and underpants should be covered at all times.
2. Strapless attire and or spaghetti straps on dresses and shirts are prohibited. Bras should not be visible. Students may not wear brief garments such as tube tops, halter-tops, net tops, or tops with plunging necklines in back or front.
3. All clothing should be made of opaque fabric.
4. Clothing must meet the safety requirements set forth by specific student activities (i.e., shop, laboratories).
5. Clothing should not be provocative and/ or revealing.
6. Skirts, shorts and skorts must be as long as or longer than the tips of a student's fingers when placed straight down at their sides.
7. Garments displaying vulgar, obscene or libelous statements or that denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability are prohibited.
8. Clothing, and/or other personal belongings may not promote, depict, and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs and or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
9. Footwear must be worn at all times.
10. The wearing of hoods and/or sunglasses in the school building is prohibited. Hats may be worn in the public areas of the school building such as hallways, lobbies, entrances and corridors. Hats may be worn in the classroom at the discretion of the classroom teacher.
11. No manner of grooming or apparel, including clothing, jewelry, hats, emblems and badges which by virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or attribute is associated with or denotes membership in or affiliation with any gang will be permitted in the school building, on school grounds, buses or school activities on or off the school campus. A gang is defined as a group of three or more individuals who share a common interest, bond or activity characterized by criminal, delinquent or otherwise disruptive conduct engaged in collectively or individually. Additionally, lettering, patches, and/or insignia on backpacks, handbags, scarves, bandanas or other personal items related to gang activity as recognized by the school administration is prohibited.

If a staff member feels that any clothing a student is wearing could possibly be considered inappropriate, that staff member has been directed by the building principal to notify the administrative staff with regard to the dress code infraction. The student will be required to modify his/her appearance. The general rule for students and parents pertaining to clothing should be - **WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T WEAR IT OUT.**

The administration will be responsible for informing the students and parents of the school dress code. The dress code will be reviewed with students at the beginning of the school year. Following that meeting, students will have a clear understanding of the policy and the consequences associated with it. The administration will not issue warnings; rather a minimum of one day of detention will be issued to any student who violates the dress code policy. The only exception will be a newly enrolled student. That student will receive one warning and then the following violation will meet with the appropriate consequence.

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility to ensure acceptable student dress and to help the student to develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

Students who violate the dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to further disciplinary action.

Opt Out Provision

The school administration must be contacted regarding exemption from the dress code when religious, cultural or medical reasons exist. This opt-out provision shall be utilized prior to the occurrence of a dress code violation.

GENERAL RULES PERTAINING TO STUDENT CONDUCT

The administration of the Babylon School District expects all junior-senior high school students to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner, to maintain appropriate demeanor with other students and staff members, and to respect all school property and equipment, as well as the property of others.

A student shall be subject to disciplinary action in relation to the following:

1. Being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, drinking an alcoholic beverage or being in possession of an alcoholic beverage on school premises including buildings and grounds or on a bus going to or from a school functions or at a school sponsored event. Alcoholic beverages shall mean and include but not be limited to alcohol, spirits, liquor, wine, beer and cider containing alcohol.
2. The use, possession, sale or gift of any drug or controlled substance or any instruments for the use of such drugs, such as a pipe, syringe or other paraphernalia while on the school grounds or in a bus going to or from a school function is prohibited. Additionally, students are prohibited from being in possession of items which by their appearance resemble illicit substances and which may be construed as such.
3. Stealing, cheating, lying, plagiarism, copying, altering records, and other acts of dishonesty or assisting others in any of the aforementioned.
4. Bullying in the form of verbal, written or physical intimidation, hazing or assisting others in any of the aforementioned.
5. Fighting, horseplay or causing physical harm to another.

6. Disrespect toward school personnel – faculty and/or staff. This will include but not be limited to:
 - Use of argumentative/confrontational language;
 - Disregard for a disciplinary decision of a teacher or a staff member.
7. Possession of or use of a weapon on school grounds, school buildings, school buses or at a school sponsored activity on or off campus.
8. The use of foul language or inappropriate language, such as cursing, and/ or raising one's voice to a staff member or to another student.

Food and Drink

In an effort to maintain a clean and safe environment in our school, students are prohibited from bringing food and drink to the classroom with the exception of plastic water bottles containing water. Food and drink must be consumed in the school cafeteria. The only exception to this rule is for students who do not have a regularly scheduled lunch period. Those students will be issued a special lunch pass by the assistant principal at the beginning of the school year or semester. Students may bring a bag lunch or purchase lunch in the cafeteria. Those students will not be allowed to leave the building to purchase lunch. Students will be responsible for cleaning up after themselves.

At no time are students allowed to go to the cafeteria during a class period to purchase food items and bring them back to the classroom. Teachers are prohibited from serving food in the classroom. In the event of a special circumstance, appropriate permission must be obtained from the building principal.

Cell Phone/Electronic Devices

Students are permitted to carry cell phones/electronic devices in their backpacks and/or handbags as long as they do not interfere with the educational process. More specifically, cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during all of the students' classroom periods, during students' travel time through the hallways between classes, during assembly periods and special events, and at school sponsored events such as concerts and plays. Cell phone use for outgoing and incoming calls is **only** permissible in the student cafeteria during the students' regularly assigned lunch period. Electronic devices may also be used in the cafeteria during the students' regularly scheduled lunch period. Seniors may also use their cell phones/electronic devices during their assigned Senior Privilege period(s). During that time period, cell phones must be placed on silent or vibrate. In addition, students are prohibited from sending and receiving text messages during the school day except in the cafeteria during their regularly assigned lunch period. When used, proper etiquette should be observed so as not to disturb others. At all other times, cell phones/electronic devices must be shut off.

Use of a cell phone or other electronic device during a test or quiz will have the same consequence as a cell phone violation and an additional violation of the academic policy regarding cheating.

Parents are advised that in the event of an emergency that necessitates contact with their child, they should call the high school switchboard at 893-7910.

Students who violate the cell phone/electronic device policy will face disciplinary action that will be fair, firm and consistent in order to change the inappropriate behavior. For a first offense, a student will be assigned an after school detention. For the second offense, a student will receive two days of detention. Upon the third offense, the cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated by the Administrative Assistant or Assistant Principal and returned only to a parent or guardian of the student at the end of the school day. The consequences of a third offense will be more severe as a third offense will be considered insubordination. This may include additional days of detention, extended detention or in school suspension.

Use of electronic devices to harass or invade another's privacy including use of the internet, e-mail, instant messages, or other electronic means as a method of harassment will be treated as a violation under the harassment policy. If such behavior occurs through use of a students' cell phone during the school day, the offense will also be treated as a violation of the cell phone policy and additional consequences will apply.