

## 2016-2017 HMS Dress Code

**The Howe Independent School District's student dress code is designed to build self-esteem, bridge socioeconomic differences between students, reduce ethnic and racial tensions, and encourage positive behavior, thereby promoting school safety and improving the learning environment.**

Clothing or jewelry which displays or advertises controlled substances, such as alcohol, tobacco, or drugs, or that maybe considered lewd, offensive, or obscene (i.e. Surf Naked, Hooter's, Twin Peaks, Caught chasing tail, and etc.) is prohibited.

Clothing Item	Permitted Styles	Special Comments
Tops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School-sponsored, HYA, or professional/college game attire</li> <li>• Short or long-sleeved, collared shirt</li> <li>• Pull over sweater/sweatshirt</li> <li>• Crew neck (rounded t-shirt)</li> <li>• Turtleneck and mock turtleneck</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible cleavage</li> <li>• All shirts must be completely buttoned with exception of neck button</li> <li>• No spandex or other stretch material</li> <li>• All shirts must extend below the hip line</li> <li>• No sheer or see-through.</li> <li>• All shirts must have some sort of sleeve</li> </ul>
Bottoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four- or Five-pocket jeans (plain, designs/logo must fit within guideline below)</li> <li>• Pleated or non-pleated slacks</li> <li>• Windpants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All pants must be worn above the hip level</li> <li>• No excessively baggy style, legs no wider than length of shoe</li> <li>• No holes or skin showing</li> <li>• Belts must be worn inside belt loops at all times and appropriate size</li> <li>• No studs, brads, or other excessive adornment on belts</li> <li>• Must be hemmed properly at bottom</li> <li>• No pajamas, warm-ups, sweatpants or joggers</li> <li>• No Running tights, leggings or other elastic, form fitting material without shorts or skirt that reaches the knee.</li> </ul>
Skirts/Dresses Shorts/Capris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hem of skirt or kick pleat must touch the kneecap or below</li> <li>• Dresses must have sleeves</li> <li>• Capris must touch the knee cap or below</li> <li>• Shorts permitted on Middle School campus ONLY and must meet above guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No holes or skin showing</li> <li>• Hemmed properly at bottom</li> <li>• No low-cut neckline (dresses)</li> <li>• Leggings may only be worn under skirts as long as guidelines for skirts are met (knee length)</li> </ul>
Outerwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sweatshirt</li> <li>• Hooded sweatshirt</li> <li>• Jacket, Coat, Windbreaker</li> <li>• School-sponsored Jacket</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must comply with all above "Tops" guidelines</li> <li>• No trench coats</li> <li>• Must remain completely unbuttoned or unzipped in the building</li> </ul>
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closed toe shoes</li> <li>• Flip-flops/sandals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No house shoes</li> <li>• Shoes must match</li> </ul>
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boys: Restrictions include sideburns past earlobes, ponytail, pigtails, and braids; no facial hair below the corners of the mouth; hair may not extend below the collar of the shirt, earlobes, or eyebrows</li> <li>• No mohawks or faux hawks.</li> <li>• All students: neatly groomed; no unnatural hair color may be displayed, such as green, purple, etc., nor symbols or gang-style haircuts</li> </ul>	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No hats</li> <li>• No visible tattoos</li> <li>• No gauges or visible body piercing, other than in the ears. This includes spikes or other backings to ear rings.</li> <li>• Boys may only wear one stud in each ear and may not wear nail polish</li> <li>• No offensive language or symbols depicting death (skulls, weapons, drug or alcohol related)</li> <li>• No heavy metal or gang-related clothing</li> <li>• No chains or bandanas</li> <li>• All clothing must fit appropriately, not excessively tight or large</li> </ul>	

- **Administrators will have complete and final judgment** on all matters concerning interpretation of the student dress code. Matters concerning the appearance and dress not specifically covered in the dress code policy that is disruptive to the educational process is not permitted.