

# MORRIS SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Dress Code policy

3-31-12

### Advisory council and Representatives from Administration

#### PHILOSOPHY:

It is acknowledged that staff members set an example by their dress and grooming habits. A staff member who dresses appropriately presents an image of dignity and fosters a respect for the educational profession. Desirable grooming habits enhance the learning/school environment, which is conducive to the successful implementation of the educational program. Cognizant of the effect that grooming has upon the learning process; the Morris School District Board of Education adopts the following standards as guidelines for dress and grooming of its professional staff. Professional staff is inclusive of certificated and non-certificated (TA's, support staff, secretaries) with exceptions as noted below.

All staff members shall:

1. Present a well groomed professional appearance and maintain appropriate hygiene at all times.
2. Wear clothing and footwear that is clean and neat.
3. Dress in a manner which reflects favorably upon the educational profession. Examples of appropriate professional dress include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Dresses and skirts (no more than 3" above the knee), suits, pants suits, slacks, and denim dress pants (jeans).
  - b. Blouses, sweaters and/or dress t-shirt tops, turtlenecks, dress polo shirts, shirts with collars, shirts with collars and ties.
  - c. Dress shoes, walking shoes, loafers, clogs, dress boots, flats, dress heels, dress sandals and leather deck-type shoes.
4. Refrain from wearing unacceptable dress including:
  - a. Form fitting and/or revealing clothing
  - b. Casual t-shirts such as those with slogans, statements, or offensive designs or graphics.
  - c. Work boots, work shoes, and beach shoes (such as rubber flip-flops)
  - d. Warm up suits, sweat pants
  - e. See through clothing, visible undergarments
  - f. Torn, tattered, stained, or faded clothing or footwear
  - g. Sneakers
  - h. Casual shorts. Examples include cargo, denim, cut-off, or those more than 3" above the knee.
  - i. Casual jeans. Examples include those that are faded, ripped, revealing, stone-washed, contain expansive logo writing, etc.

5. Physical education teachers may wear clothes which are conducive to their subject area. Athletic jackets, pullover shirts with collars, slacks, jogging suits, shorts (no cargo or cut-offs) and t-shirts in the gym or outdoors are acceptable.
6. When necessary, in a consistent manner, the building principal may relax the dress code for staff under the following circumstances or at their discretion:
  - a. Inclement weather (hot or cold)
  - b. Field trips
  - c. Unique school activities
  - d. Medical reasons
  - e. Fun Day
  - f. DARE Day/Picnic
  - g. Casual Fridays
  - h. Shop teachers may wear work boots or work shoes.
  - i. For preschool staff, lunch aides, staff on lunch duty, playground aides, bus drivers or those who wear uniforms (such as custodial and kitchen staff)
  - j. Dress shorts, worn with dress shirt and shoes, may be acceptable on days where classroom temperatures are excessive
  - k. Sneakers may be worn for outside activities (i.e.: staff) may change into sneakers when they accompany their students for outside recess, lunch, etc.
7. No head coverings (i.e. hats) unless it is for religious or medical reasons