

2.006 Dress Code Policy

Riverside Leadership Academy's Board of Directors created a dress code to help promote unity by encouraging a sense of belonging and pride in the school community. It also is designed to discourage bullying, victimization, and socio-economic discrimination. It reduces social pressure and peer conflicts and encourages students to concentrate more on their studies than on their wardrobe by creating a learning environment free of unnecessary distractions.

Any apparel that includes graphics or lettering that are vulgar, obscene, have profane language or that Riverside Leadership Academy Administration deems inappropriate, such as clothing that inappropriately exposes students' bodies, is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action. If a student's dress or appearance violates the dress attire policy, it will result in a Class 1 infraction (see student discipline policy) and students may be required to change.

In all aspects of student dress, Riverside Leadership Academy Administration reserves the right to deem student apparel out of compliance and inappropriate. The school administrators shall exercise appropriate discretion in implementing this policy, including making reasonable accommodations to these rules for religious, cultural, or medical reasons.

I. TOPS

Tops are defined as shirts, sweatshirts, hooded sweatshirts, blouses, jackets, vests, and sweaters.

A. Permissible Tops include:

- Tops that have a primary color of gray, white, black, or blue
- Any official RLA school apparel, regardless of color including tops related to athletic teams, clubs, and other programs endorsed by Riverside Leadership Academy.
- Tops that have small brand logos such as those on the breast pocket of a polo or t-shirt

B. Prohibited Tops include:

- Tops in any color other than the permissible colors listed under Permissible Tops
- Tank tops, sleeveless tops, camisoles, or cut off shirts
- Tops that expose undergarments
- Tops with images, words, or lettering

All jackets, coats, pullovers and hoodies, worn in the school building, must meet the same standards of Permissible Tops as described above. If a student wears a jacket or coat that does not meet these requirements they must remove it once they enter the school building.

II. **BOTTOMS**

Bottoms are defined as shorts, pants, jeans, leggings, athletic pants/shorts, capris, skirts, and dresses.

A. Permissible Bottoms include:

- Bottoms that have a primary color of blue, gray, black, or khaki.
- Any official RLA school apparel, regardless of color including tops related to athletic teams, clubs, and other programs endorsed by Riverside Leadership Academy.
- Bottoms that have small brand logos such as those located on hips, hems, or pockets.
- Bottoms must cover the buttocks completely, ensuring that the garment provides full coverage when standing, sitting, or moving.

B. Prohibited Bottoms include:

- Bottoms with holes, rips, or excessive distress that exposes undergarments or students' bodies.
- Bottoms in any color other than the permissible colors listed under Permissible Bottoms
- Bottoms that expose undergarments or do not cover the buttocks completely when standing, sitting or moving
- Bottoms with images, words, or lettering

All bottoms must be worn at or above the waistline. Waistline is defined as in line with the student's navel. Students who wear bottoms that RLA administration deems inappropriate will be considered out of dress code.

III. **OTHER APPAREL**

A. Socks/Shoes

- For students in grades K-5, all shoes must have a back or heel strap. Flip flops and slides are NOT permitted.
- For students in grades 6-12, all shoes including flip flops and slides are permitted.
- Slippers/house shoes are prohibited for all students K-12.

B. Headgear & Sunglasses

- Sunglasses are not to be worn inside the school building.
- Hats, bandanas, & beanies are not to be worn inside the school building.

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Revised and Board Approved: June 27, 2024

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- Religious or culturally significant headgear including, but not limited to hijabs, yamakas, or headscarves are permitted inside the school building.

C. College Day Guidelines

Students may wear a permissible top with a College/University logo or lettering displayed on it.

D. Dress Down/Spirit Day Guidelines

- Students can dress outside of the primary color requirements and clothing should meet all other dress code requirements.
- Dress down days include project celebrations, athletic events, and other occasions as noted on the calendar and directed by school administrators, school leaders, or coaches.