

# Dress Code for High School, Unacceptable Attire, Attendance

## High School Dress Code

### For Girls

Neat, clean, well-fitting clothing:  
Dresses/skirts (mid-thigh or longer), mid-thigh shorts, or pants with tops and shoes

### For Boys

Neat, clean, well-fitting clothing:  
Pants or mid-thigh shorts with tops and shoes  
Hair out of eyes

### Unacceptable Attire

Tank tops  
Tight fitted clothing  
Caps  
Midriff tops  
Athletic jerseys  
Baggy, saggy, or oversized clothing  
Shirts with gang symbols, slogans, or colors

Slacks/pants/skirts worn below the waist  
Blankets  
Duster coats/Trench coats  
Hats  
Bandanas  
House shoes/slippers  
Shoes with wheels  
Gauges in ears

## Rules for High School

- Students must wear their Student ID Badge visible around their neck at all times
- Shirts must not be oversized and must be tucked in
- Shirts must not be low cut or tight
- Pants must fit at the waist or a student must wear a belt. There will be no sagging. Students whose pants are sagging will have their pants cinched with a zip tie.
- Pants may not have any holes exposing skin above the knee
- No leather or pleather pants, skirts, dresses, or shorts
- No clothes with reference to alcohol, sex, vulgar language, gang symbols, or shapes
- No visible tattoos with reference to alcohol, sex, vulgar language, or gang symbols, affiliations or shapes
- All tattoos on neck or face must be covered at all times
- Yoga/spandex pants allowed only with a long shirt that comes below the buttocks
- Hair must be clean and out of the face
- No symbols or shapes may be cut into the hair
- A student's attire cannot cause a distraction
- **All backpacks or over-sized bags/purses must be see-through (clear or mesh).**
- No backless shoes

Students should be cautious when selecting shoes for school. High heels can become uncomfortable after an entire day of school. Galena Park ISD is not responsible for injuries due to shoe choice.

The principal of the school shall have the discretion to determine if a student's tattoos or body piercings are a distraction.

## Attendance

Each child residing in or legally transferred to GPISD who is as much as six years of age, or who is less than six years of age and has previously been enrolled in a public school, and who has not completed the academic year in which his/her nineteenth birthday occurred shall be required to attend school each day for the entire period the program of instruction is provided.

In order to receive credit in a class, students must be in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered. Students who are in attendance for fewer than the prescribed number of days set by the law shall not be given credit for the class unless the attendance committee finds that the absence(s) are the result of extenuating circumstances.

When returning to school after an absence, a student must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence; notes signed by the student, even with the parent's permission, will be considered forgery and the student will be disciplined.

The District accepts the following as extenuating circumstances for the purpose of granting credit or promotion:

1. An excused absence based on personal illness or illness or death in the family, quarantine, weather or road conditions making travel dangerous, and any other unusual cause acceptable to the teacher, principal, or Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.
2. Days of suspension.
3. Participation in court proceedings or child abuse/neglect investigation or any court-ordered activity.
4. A migrant student's late enrollment or early withdrawal.
5. Days missed as a runaway.
6. Completion of a competency based program for "at risk" students.
7. Late enrollment or early withdrawal of a student under Texas Youth Commission.
8. Teen parent absences to care for his or her child.
9. Participation in a substance abuse rehabilitation program.
10. Religious holy days when the days are a tenet of faith and parents submit a written request prior to the absence.
11. Appointment with health care professional.
12. Obtaining U.S. citizenship.

If the attendance committee finds that there are no extenuating circumstances for the absence or if conditions established by the committee for earning or regaining credit are not met, the committee shall deny credit for the class. Students whose petitions for credit are denied may appeal the attendance committee's decision to the Board of Trustees by submitting a written request that includes the basis for the disagreement with the committee's decision to the Superintendent's designee. The appeal shall be addressed as provided by the student complaint policies. (See FNG (Legal) & FNG (Local)).

The District shall provide alternative ways for students to make up work or regain credit lost due to attendance.

In all cases, the student must also earn a passing grade in order to receive the credit.

**Students who have been absent for any reason are required to make up the work they missed within the time given by the teacher.** Failure to make up work may result in academic penalties.

## Consecutive Absences, Excused and Unexcused Absences

**It is the student's responsibility to request missing assignments.** Parents may request assignments for a student who will be absent more than three days for personal illness by calling the school **office 24 hours in advance.**

Students who are absent for any part of the school day will not be allowed to participate in school related activities on that day or evening, unless the absence is considered justifiable (e.g. school related activities, doctor's appointments for part of the day). This also applies to participating on Saturday when absent on Friday.

**Students who are absent from school or from any class without permission will be considered truant and will be subject to disciplinary action.** Students with excessive tardies or unexcused absences shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and failure or loss of credit, but may not be suspended from school. **The parent of a student is responsible for requiring the student to attend school. Legal action may be taken if the parent reneges on the responsibility.**

### Excused Absences

A child required to attend school may be excused for temporary absence resulting from any cause acceptable to the teacher, or principal of the school in which the child is enrolled. Excused absences may include temporary absence resulting from personal illness, death or illness in the family, quarantine, weather or road conditions making travel dangerous, or a required court appearance.

All absences for which the student brings a doctor's note will be considered excused absences. In cases where the student brings a parent note, the **first five notes** will excuse the absence, as long as the duration of the absence is between one and four consecutive days. All absences of five days or longer will require a doctor's note.

After the fifth note, regardless of whether or not the child has a parent note, the absence will be considered an unexcused absence unless the child has a doctor's note or visits the school nurse and is sent home due to illness.

Any notes from the parent and/or guardian explaining the nature of the absence must be submitted no later than three (3) school days after the student's absence and must include specific information as to the nature of the absence. Information required:

1. Name of student
2. Campus
3. Date(s) of absence(s)
4. Specific reason for absence(s)
5. Signature of parent/guardian
6. Phone number of parent/guardian
7. Date

Semester examinations missed during exam week at the end of each semester must be made up within ten days after the end of each semester provided the student has an excused absence unless other arrangements have been made with the principal. **Failure to make up final examinations will result in an exam grade of 0.**

### Consecutive Absences

Any student who is absent five (5) or more consecutive days will be required to submit a doctor's note to excuse the absences.

### Warning Notice for Unexcused Absences

The District shall notify a student's parent in writing during student registration that if the student has been absent without an excuse ten (10) or more days within a six-month period in the same school year, the student's parent is subject to prosecution under Section 25.093, and the student is subject to a truancy court for truant conduct under Section 65.003(a), Family Code. If a student age 12 through age 18 violates the compulsory attendance law, both the parent and student may be referred to the truancy court.

- \* The fact that a parent did not receive a notice does not create a defense to prosecution under Section 25.093 or under Section 65.003(a), Family Code.

### Tardies

**Elementary Schools** - Students who are tardy must go directly to the office for a tardy slip. **Students are tardy to school if they are not in their classroom when the bell rings to start the school day or any of the class periods.** Excessive tardies may lead to disciplinary action.

**Secondary Schools** - Students are tardy if they are not in their classroom when the bell rings to start the school day or any of the class periods.

Please contact your school principal regarding the beginning and ending times of school. Times are subject to change.

### Student Transfers

Parents may request a student transfer for limited reasons. These reasons include, but are not limited to: Public Education Grant (PEG) list, and being a victim of a violent crime on campus (Policy FDE). For more information regarding transfers, please contact the Student Admissions Office. If your student is transferred to another school, the District is not responsible for transportation.

## HEALTH-RELATED MATTERS

In the event of a pandemic, GPISD will adhere to CDC, state or local health recommendations.

### Student Illness

When your child is ill, please contact the school to let us know he or she won't be attending that day. It is important to remember that schools must exclude students with certain illnesses from school for periods of time as identified in state rules. For example, if your child has a fever over 100 degrees, he or she must stay out of school until fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications. In addition,