

Pasco School District Elementary Schools

Elementary Dress Code

Pasco Elementary Schools look upon the district dress code as a key component of the educational process. We are of the opinion that we are preparing students for success. While security and safety continue to be the driving forces behind this policy, they are not the only factors.

Students are allowed to wear the clothing of their choices as long as it does not hinder the educational process. Students who willingly choose to dress inappropriately will be asked to change. If they do not have other clothes to change into, they may be provided with clothing from the school. Otherwise, arrangements must be made for students to go home or for parents to bring clothes to school.

The following articles of clothing are not acceptable and may not be worn at any Pasco Elementary School during the school day. This is a brief overview.

- ❖ Any article of clothing that becomes identified as gang-related
- ❖ Baggy, oversized trousers that are not worn at or above the hip bones
- ❖ Oversized shirts below the hip
- ❖ Bandanas (this includes, but is not limited to, bandanas used as pony tail holders, bracelets, etc.)
- ❖ Belts which are four inches longer than waist
- ❖ Clothing with drug/alcohol/tobacco logos
- ❖ Clothing with gang symbolism or graffiti
- ❖ Clothing with inappropriate or offensive language or statements
- ❖ Clothing with LA Raiders, Kings, Chicago White Sox, old English and script writing, Ben Davis, PLAYERS, or 69 logos, Fubu, South-Pole, Rolling Hard
- ❖ Dangling chains of any kind
- ❖ Halter tops, spaghetti straps, see-through blouses, or blouses that expose midriffs
- ❖ Hats, caps, or head gear of any kind
- ❖ Overcoats, trench coats, dusters
- ❖ Pants nailed/pinned to the shoes and pants with one pant-leg rolled up and the other one down
- ❖ Socks pulled up to the knees when shorts cover the top of the socks

The following articles of clothing are acceptable to wear as long as they meet the stated criteria:

- ❖ Tank tops (straps must be 3 finger widths or more wide, collar must not be low-cut, no large cut/gaping armholes)
- ❖ Shorts/Skirts/Dresses (length must be mid-thigh or longer)

Attendance Law

Regular school attendance is necessary for a successful education. It is also the law. Regular school attendance is part of Washington's compulsory attendance law—the "BECCA BILL." Passed in 1995, the law is an effort to keep more students in school, reduce unexcused absences, and make parents more accountable for their child's school attendance. Children aged 6 to 18 are required to attend school.

Pasco School District students who habitually have unexcused absences may find themselves in juvenile court. Written excuses from a parent or legal guardian are required each time a student is absent, tardy or leaves school early. Excuses must be submitted within 48 hrs of the absence. The definition of an excused absence includes an illness or health condition verified by a parent and doctor, participation in a school—approved activity, suspension from school, a religious observance or family emergency. Missing the bus, oversleeping, car problems and babysitting are not excusable.

Without a written excuse or telephone call from a parent, a student's absence is considered unexcused. After a student's second unexcused absence in one month, the school district shall take steps to reduce the absences. This may include scheduling a parent conference, referring the student and family for counseling or offer tutoring.

If a student receives five unexcused absences within one month or ten unexcused absences within the school year, the Pasco School District is required by law to file a petition for civil action with the juvenile court. The court may fine the parents of the juvenile or order the parents to perform community service for their child's truancy.