



## **AWEC Student Dress Code**

Students are expected at all times to dress in a manner that is appropriate, clean, and tidy. AWEC requires that students give evidence of respect for each other, the school staff, and their school by having students:

- maintain good habits of personal hygiene and grooming
- dress in a way that does not cause others embarrassment or discomfort.

A student's dress and appearance shall be safe, and appropriate for the time, place, and occasion, and should not, in the opinion of the school's staff, disrupt or interfere with the educational environment. This includes school events such as dances, sporting events, or any events where the student is representing the school/school board.

Certain types of attire that may be regarded as acceptable in situations outside of school are not suitable in a school setting in which students are attempting to concentrate on their school work, learning, and achievement.

AWEC acknowledges that adolescence is a time of rapid physical growth and developing sexual awareness. Schools are intended to provide an environment for teaching and learning. Consequently, the Annapolis West Education Centre stipulates, without prejudice, that clothing that is overly revealing can, in fact, disrupt or interfere with the educational environment.

Dress that is appropriate in the school environment is that which covers the body in a manner that is congruent with the age and stage of the student and the setting. For example, during physical education class or team practices, males and females may wear shorts and T-shirts, or other loose-fitting attire approved by the instructor or coach and suitable for exercising. In other educational settings, adolescent males and females will wear clothing that covers the body to a reasonable extent to support an environment in which teaching and learning are taking place.

Inappropriate attire is judged to be any attire which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, promotes or incites discrimination, or which, because of the setting (for example, in certain laboratory situations) endangers the health and safety of oneself or others. Examples of dress, appearance, or adornment that are prohibited include, but are not limited to:

- clothes with holes in inappropriate places
- exposed undergarments
- pajamas
- clothing that reveals evidence of self-mutilation
- excessively tight or short garments
- shirts that expose the midriff
- strapless shirts or tops that expose much of the upper chest or back
- any attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, profane, or vulgar or that advertise any products or services which are illegal or not permitted by law to minors
- "see-through" clothing
- any adornment or clothing (such as chains or spikes) that could reasonably be perceived as, or used as, a weapon
- any attire containing symbols, styles or messages, which promote or may incite hatred, intolerance, discrimination, violence, or intimidation

Students who do not comply with the school dress code may be directed to return home and change their attire before returning to school or may be directed to wear a school-provided T-shirt until end-of-day dismissal.

Repeated non-compliance of the dress code will be treated as a disciplinary issue and be considered disruptive behaviour under the AWEC Discipline Policy.