

Dress Code Committee Meeting
April 13, 2023
Mount Carmel Area District Office
5:30pm to 6:00pm

I. Question Review

Why yogas are not allowed even on dress-down days?

- *We are trying to prepare students for life after school and how to dress with a professional look. Distractions could be caused due to clothing being too tight and again our belief is that students should be dressed more professionally.*

Why are hoods not allowed?

- *Safety is a major reason hoods are not allowed. We made this change years ago due to increased school intruder incidents that were occurring nationwide and the difficulty of recognizing students (ie using camera system.) Pockets in front are also a safety concern. (Same reason we don't allow cargo pants with pockets on the side of pants.)*

Why can't clothing items with small logos be worn?

- *We didn't want a situation to occur where some students could not afford "name brand" items which would possibly relate to increased bullying incidents. We do allow shirts with logos that are related to specific Mount Carmel Area School District club and activities.*

Why can't denim or even wear pants with rips or holes be worn?

- *We are trying to prepare students for life after school and how to dress with a professional look. The reasoning for the current dress code is studies have shown higher morale and less student discipline as a result.*

What can I do if I can't afford dress code appropriate clothing?

- *Thanks to local donations we have a clothing drive that can provide free clothing to students in need. Please complete the Google Doc using the following link:*
<http://www.mca.k12.pa.us/wp/clothing-project/>

II. Research

- <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED537953.pdf>
Studies show a link between higher morale, less discipline, and improved school safety with schools that have a dress code.

III. The plan is to continue **dress down days every Friday (with dress-down expectations)**

IV. Community input

- Please keep comments to 2 minutes. Our school board will take back all comments to the full board during our work session. Future discussions will be planned leading into the 2023-2024 school year.