

# What's the deal with dress codes?

(HINT: THEY'RE NOT GREAT)

All students should be able to dress comfortably for school without fear or unnecessary discipline or body shaming.

All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own "distractions" without policing students' clothing.

Teachers should focus on teaching without the uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.

## Some not great examples

## We recommend

<p>✗ "Students' clothing should not be a distraction to others or interfere with learning"</p>	<p>✓ "Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, and nipples are covered with opaque material."</p>
<p>✗ "No low cut shirts or bottoms"; "no bare midriffs"; "tank top straps must be x thick"; "shorts, skirts, dresses must be x long"</p>	<p>✓ "Students must wear shirts, bottoms, and shoes"; Students should not be shamed or required to display their bodies in front of others in school.</p>
<p>✗ Enforcement targeting LGBTQ+ youth who dress in ways that don't align with sex assigned at birth</p>	<p>✓ No student should be targeted because of gender identity, race, sexual orientation, body size, or body maturity.</p>
<p>✗ No hats, head, or face coverings; no "inappropriate" hair</p>	<p>✓ Enforcement should be limited to safety and non-violence/discrimination.</p>


Targets girls & feminine presenting youth

Targets youth of color, particularly Black & Muslim youth

Credit: Oregon NOW Model Student Dress Code

### Who Are We?

Michigan Youth Girls Advisory Board (MY GAB) is a youth advisory council that focuses on empowering girls and nonbinary youth in schools. MY GAB is a program of Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health (MOASH).

 @empowering.miyouth



MOASH

### Where can you find your dress code?

- ☆ District Website
- ☆ School Website
- ☆ School Handbook
- ☆ Ask the front office

The dress code should be easy for students to find!