

BLOUNT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD POLICY REVISION FOR
2020-2021

CHECK ONE

POLICY REVISION

SUBMITTED BY:

NEW POLICY

Mary Grace Hicks, Brittany Etheredge, Brittney Henderson,
Hayden Middle School

Name of individual submitting revision
Administration, faculty, or student representative list school name as well.
If you are patron, support, or BCEA representatives, indicate that information
after your name.

CURRENT POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 5.7

NAME OF POLICY: Dress and Decorum

PARAGRAPH NUMBER IF PARTIAL REVISION: 9 ADDITIONAL _____

TYPE CURRENT POLICY HERE:

Students in grades 4-12 are prohibited from wearing short shorts, short culottes, sheer mesh or net clothing, backless clothing, extremely tight pants, tank tops or muscle shirts, (6)shirts with sleeves cut off at the shoulder, or clothing that exposes a bare midriff. (3)Shirts must be buttoned. For students in grades 4-12, clothing, cuts, slits, or tears in clothing should not exceed four inches above the knee. (1) Extremely tight clothing shall be prohibited.(7)Leggings and other tightly fitting pants must be covered with clothing that meets the four inch standard stated above.

NEW OR REVISED POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 5.7

POLICY TITLE (IF NEW POLICY): _____

TYPE POLICY REVISION HERE

Students in grades 4-12 are prohibited from wearing short shorts, short culottes, sheer mesh or net clothing, backless clothing, ~~extremely tight pants~~, tank tops or muscle shirts, (6)shirts with sleeves cut off at the shoulder, or clothing that exposes a bare midriff. (3)Shirts must be buttoned. For students in grades 4-12, clothing, cuts, slits, or tears in clothing should not exceed four inches above the knee. (1) Extremely tight clothing shall be prohibited. (7) **Leggings and other tightly fitting pants must be covered with clothing that covers the student's seat. Leggings are not professional dress and should not be worn by employees during a regularly-schedule school day when students are present unless the top or dress is no shorter than four inches above the knee.**

Rationale: Leggings are not a distraction in the school environment. Earlier in 5.7 it states, "Students must be neatly dressed, clean, and well groomed while at school. Clothing must be suited for school activities." Leggings are appropriate attire for physical education classes. Middle school students should not have to run the mile in jeans because they cannot find shorts that meet the four-inch requirement. Not all schools have locker room facilities, so dressing out for physical education is not a feasible answer to this issue. Also, the language of "extremely tight pants" is vague and subjective. Male principals should not be placed in the position of having to make a judgement call on "extremely tight pants" on a female student.

Leggings restrictions are not consistently enforced across the system. Leggings are not a distraction in the school environment, and they do not prohibit a student from learning.