

Hello DSST: Cedar Falcons and Families:

We are reaching out with important updates to our 23-24 Dress Code. First, we want to explain why there is a mid-summer update:

- The DSST network has made the decision to standardize the Dress Code across all middle and high schools, respectively.
- The new, DSST-wide, Middle School dress code contains some changes to our previous dress code plan
- The new dress code guidance only became available recently.

Next, we want to share what we are excited about:

- The dress code continues to offer lots of options for Tops!
- The dress code now includes the option to wear shorts!
- The dress code continues to require close toed/closed heel shoes. We believe this is important for safety and formality of the school environment.
- The dress code now offers the options for various types of headwear.

Please read the dress code carefully. It is a brief document but all the details matter! If you have any questions you can reach out to the Associate School Director, Scott.Franzblau@scienceandtech.org

In support of all students knowing the details of dress code and clarity for how it will be enforced the first four days of school will have "Falcon Student University." Falcon Student University will cover all school systems that support our core values based community.

A note on our name-change:

- Students can continue to wear clothing that says "DSST: Byers" and should make sure they have taken time to [educate themselves about the complicated history](#) that has led to our name change.

Shop for gear here: [Dress Code Store & info about new "Cedar" wear...](#)

Student Dress Code
Middle School
A. All dress must be appropriate and schools hold discretion to make judgment calls on any specific student's attire. Attire that promotes inappropriate topics is not permitted, including: violence, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, gangs, sex/nudity, or anything else deemed derogatory or harmful.
B. Tops: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. DSST top, except on earned dress-down days*b. No undergarments should be visible *8th graders only can also wear College/university Tops on all days (this is only at DSST: Cedar Middle School)
C. Bottoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Bottoms that fully cover undergarments (no part of underwear, undershorts, or bras can be showing).
D. Shoes:

- a. Any close-toed shoes. Shoes 'must completely cover the foot' according to Flinn Scientific lab [guidelines](#); therefore, no Crocs or sandals are allowed.

E. Headwear:

- a. Hoodies (must adhere to Tops guidelines) are allowed, but no hoods can be up on any student at any time.
- b. Headcoverings (hats, beanies, bonnets and du rags) are allowed.
- c. Head coverings cannot cover/hide a student's face or the ears so staff can determine if earbuds are being used. (The exception to this is religious head coverings.) This means students **cannot wear forward-facing** baseball caps.

Rationale: Requiring a minimal dress code keeps the focus on what matters: learning. In addition, our dress code policy directly relates to safety, visibility, and the ability to identify students in the case of an emergency.