

Dress Code

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The concept of dress code is simple. My clothes are too distracting to the immature middle school boy who hasn't an ounce of self control, so I change my clothes and just like that he can pay attention. Oh wait, that's not so simple at all. No matter what administrators are thinking or what they are trying to accomplish with dress code, it sends the same message to girls everywhere. Our bodies should be covered up because they are a distraction. Dragging us to the office and making us cover up just makes us feel insecure and like we did something wrong. If I were to be dress coded it would be because my clothes are too revealing, or my clothes do not help contribute to a professional working environment. The whole concept of changing your clothes because they are too distracting is complete insanity. There is no way I can ever understand how my collarbone could disrupt a learning environment. Why should I have to get time taken away from my own education because I unintentionally impacted someone else's? It's not my fault that somehow my shoulders are distracting you from your own education. I do completely understand the importance of a professional learning environment, however, what is more professional: a sweatshirt and sweatpants or a dress that happens to be shorter than my arm length? Give yourself a moment to think about the certain dress code violations you've heard of. Now the first thing that probably came to your mind is the fingertip rule. What this means is basically if you're wearing shorts that don't reach the length of your fingertips then it violates the dress code. Now might I ask, in what way could this possibly be distracting, how can the mere sight of legs be so incredibly distracting that you can't even focus on your own school work? The second thing that came to your mind is probably the shoulder rule. In the most respectful way possible, you have to be kidding me. In what way could my shoulders be unprofessional or distracting? Why do I have to be the one getting sent down to the office for wearing a tank top and shorts to school on an 80 degree day because someone else couldn't focus during school? Why aren't the male students getting sent down for not listening? If this were any other occasion and they weren't paying attention the outcome would be extremely different. All I'm asking here is to stop prioritizing your male students' education over mine. Stop telling me to cover up and start telling them to learn self control. Because when I get out of here, all of this unfair treatment will not change. When I get out of here, I'll still be making 75 cents to their dollar.