



ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON STUDENT LEADERS

A division of the Association of Washington School Principals

20/20: A guide to spirit days!

(In collaboration with Oregon Association of Student Councils)

AWSL believes in providing leadership opportunities that support and increase the academic and social success of all students. To promote positive social and academic experiences for all, we must create safe schools where all are valued.

Spirit Days are an excellent way to show school spirit and pride! This guide will walk through spirit days with an intent v. impact lens and perspective.

RED LIGHT: These thematic ideas stereotype and potentially dehumanize people. These days should be avoided.

- Gangster/Thug/Hood
- Frat-boy
- Gender Wars (Boys/Girls wearing exclusive colors)
- Fake an Injury Day
- VSCO/Eboy/Egirl
- Stoplight (showing your relationship based on Red, Yellow, Green)
- Dress like a parent (Mom/Dad).

YELLOW LIGHT: These themes could potentially work, as long as the school is intentional with language and a true understanding of your school demographics is known.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • White Out/Black Out | Wear All White, Wear All Black or Lights Out |
| • Hawaiian | Tropical/Beach Day/Ohana |
| • 'Murica | America or Red, White & Blue (know your school's demographics) |
| • Gender Bender/Cross Dress | Mix it Up |
| • Red Neck | Wear Flannel/Country |
| • Christmas Colors | Winter Wear |
| • Ugly Holiday Sweater | Winter/Holiday Sweater |
| • Thrift Store | Old School/Decades |
| • Crazy Hair/Socks | Wacky Hair/Socks |

Not a spirit day, but a popular event at schools currently is: "Muffins with mom" or "Doughnuts with Dad." A consideration that could be more inclusive is: "**Goodies with Grown-Ups.**"

GREEN LIGHT: These should be inclusive for all:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Tie-Dye | • Favorite Socks |
| • Pink Out (Breast Cancer Awareness) | • Hat |
| • School Gear | • Favorite T-Shirt |
| • Decades | • Favorite Color Day |
| • Backward | • Movie Character |
| • Get-Up and Go | • Jean/Denim Day |
| • Plaid | • Hooded Sweatshirt Day |
| • Neon | • Have an alternative every day. <i>Ex. "Decades day, or wear blue."</i> |
| • Sports/Jerseys | |
| • Superhero | |