



DRESS CODE POLICY

OUR VALUES ARE:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal “distractions” without regulating individual students’ clothing/self-expression.
- Teachers should focus on teaching without the additional and often uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

I. GOALS OF A STUDENT DRESS CODE

A student dress code should accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as chemistry/biology (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their gender identity.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.

II. DRESS CODE POLICY

The primary responsibility for a student’s attire resides with the student and parents or guardians. The school is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student and that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student.

Students should be given the most choice possible in how they dress for school. Any restrictions must be necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and must be explained within the dress code.

1. Basic Principle: Certain body parts must be covered for all students

Clothes must be worn in a way such that private parts and bottoms are covered with opaque material. All items listed in the “must wear” and “may wear” categories below must meet this basic principle.

2. Students Must Wear:

- Shirt
- Bottom: pants/sweatpants/shorts/skirt/dress/leggings
- Shoes: activity-specific shoe requirements are permitted (for example for sports). No heels over 2 inches.



3. Students May Wear:

- Hats, including religious headwear
- Hoodie sweatshirts (over head is allowed, unless it hinders the education process)
- Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants, and “skinny jeans.”
- Midriff-baring shirts – touching tops of pants
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear is not exposed.
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps.
- Athletic attire
- Clothing with commercial or athletic logos.

4. Students Cannot Wear:

- Visible underwear. (Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation).
- Bathing suits
- Helmets or headgear that obscures the face (except as a religious observance).
- No clothing, jewelry, accessories, or hairstyles which are, or include, a picture, writing, or insignia which is:
 - (1) gang related;
 - (2) presents a safety hazard to the wearer or others;
 - (3) advertises or symbolizes any type of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or gambling;
 - (4) includes weapons or acts which are illegal, violent, obscene, or hazardous to one's health;
 - (5) sexually suggestive, crude, vulgar, profane; discriminatory, obscene, contain threats, libelous; or
 - (6) offensive or degrading to students or staff on the basis of gender, cultural, religious or ethnic values.

Dress Code Violations

If a Charter School staff member determines that a student's attire is inappropriate or disruptive to the educational environment as described hearing, the following may occur:

1. The student may be asked to briefly leave class to change clothing to align with this dress code.
2. The Charter School may confiscate items that violate the dress code.
3. The Charter School may notify the student's parents/guardians of the dress code violation(s).
4. The Charter School may schedule a conference with the student's parents/guardians to discuss the dress code violation(s).

Students may not be disciplined, penalized academically, or removed from class as a consequence for wearing “inappropriate” attire.