

DRESS AND APPEARANCE POLICY

Voted 6 18-185/30/18

The Dress and Appearance Policy applies whenever a student is on campus and for a school event. Each item in the policy refers to BOTH male and female students unless otherwise specified. For special events, at school or off-campus, acceptable variations to the policy may be announced after approval by the school administration

The MVA Dress and Appearance Policy reflects the values of the school as a Christian institution. Student dress and appearance should reflect respect for self and respect for others. The goal of this policy is to help students focus on and engage in active learning throughout the school day. Studies have shown that the way a student dresses can affect the way they do in school.

Core Values: Neatness, cleanliness, safety, modesty, good taste, and the avoidance of extremes are at the heart of the MVA Dress and Appearance Policy.

NEATNESS & CLEANLINESS

All students **SHOULD** strive to keep neat and hygienic appearance. Clothing must be clean and in good repair.

The following apply to all items of clothing worn:

- No tears or holes.
- No ragged or worn-out edges.
- No items worn inside-out.
- No cut-outs or sheer material will be permitted.

Pajama pants, yoga/spandex pants, jeggings, athletic shorts, sweat pants, etc. are not acceptable as school attire. Sleeveless shirts and spaghetti straps are not acceptable as school attire.

SAFETY

Clothing should fit normally and not be overly tight or baggy and should not drag on the ground. While on campus, students must wear shoes that properly cover their feet. This means shoes must be **closed-toed and completely cover the foot** or have a back strap. Shoe or boot laces must be tied correctly. Specific footwear may be mandated for activities such as labs and sports activities.

MODESTY

Skirts and dresses need to be no shorter than slightly above the knee representing a modest

length. Shorts need to be no shorter than mid-thigh. Shirts and blouses must cover the chest and midriff with a modest neckline dipping no lower than slightly below the top of the sternum. No undergarments may be showing

GOOD TASTE & AVOIDANCE OF EXTREMES

CLOTHING (including hats, shoes, shirts, T-shirts and other accessories) depicting or referencing anything deemed inappropriate (such as gangs, violence, drugs, obscenities, etc.) is not allowed.

HAIR should be cut in a natural, neat, and clean style. **UNNATURAL** hair colors are not allowed (unnatural refers to any color that does not naturally grow from the human head). **EXTREME** hair styles, such as shaved patterns or hair spiked longer than one inch, are not allowed.

Visible **TATTOOS** (real or otherwise) are not allowed.

JEWELRY of any type is not permitted.

HEADWEAR (hats, hoods, bandanas, scarves, etc.) may not be worn inside except for reasons of religious faith.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS:

The Dress and Appearance policy values of neatness, cleanliness, modesty, good taste, and avoidance of extremes still apply to special occasions.

FORMAL BANQUETS AND CLASS NIGHT

If students are unsure if their chosen outfit meets the Dress Policy, they are encouraged to seek advice from a faculty or staff member.

PICNIC AND BEACH EVENTS

Flip flops and open-toed sandals are allowed (only to and at beach events).

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Athletic shorts and sweatpants are allowed (only to and at athletic events).

MANAGEMENT OF POLICY: To manage the policy at school, the following protocol will be followed:

- Students who are not following the policy will be asked to correct the infraction by editing their outfit

(adding items or removing items) before returning to class or other activities.

- If this is not possible the student will be sent to the office until their parent/guardian is able to solve the problem by bringing them clothes or taking the student home,
- Dress and Appearance Policy infractions are considered to be a violation of the discipline policy and students who do not follow the policy will receive a dress

code violation notice and it will be entered into Ren Web.

Classes missed for dress code violations will be considered unexcused.

Failure to follow the Dress and Appearance Policy as stated may result in disciplinary action after the third violation. ***The administration reserves the final say in matters of the Dress Code and Appearance Policy.***