

Middle School Dress Standards for 2008-2009

The purpose of the dress code is to create an environment which maximizes respect between students, faculty and staff, and which fosters an atmosphere of learning. Ideally, dress should be an issue to which we pay little attention, given our emphasis in the Middle School on academic programs of quality, student responsibility and service to others, and opportunities to try out new courses and activities. The dress code is intended to create an expectation regarding appearance to be met by students. It is clear to the faculty that the school must take the lead in establishing a dress standard, which reflects our goals. Dress cannot be a distraction to learning.

We expect parents to help the school enforce its dress standard. Students out of proper dress will be asked to call home for appropriate clothing. They will not be allowed to attend class until given something to change into and are then dressed appropriately. Students will receive an unexcused tardy to their next class and repeat offenders may receive no credit for missed classes.

Tops

RHSM short-sleeved and long-sleeved shirts and sweatshirts in a variety of solid colors will be available for purchase through Land's End and Initially Yours. RHSM fall trip t-shirts for the current school year and Booster Club/Patrons of the Arts clothing sold through the school will also be acceptable dress. Occasionally, students wish to wear a shirt under their RHSM top. Those also must be a solid color (no patterns).

Unacceptable tops:

- * Outdoor clothing worn indoors.
- * RHSM sports team clothing.
- * Acceptable tops which have been altered, torn, or stained in any way.
- * RHSM trip t-shirts from previous years

Bottoms

Students may wear any solid-colored slacks, shorts, or skirts. Waistbands must fit snugly at the waist and must have a zipper and button or snap. A guideline for purchasing slacks or jeans is that the waist measurement is no more than 1-2" larger than the student's natural waist size. Shorts and skirts may be no shorter than 3" above the knee, even if tights or leggings are worn underneath.

Unacceptable bottoms:

- * Any pants and short with elastic waists or drawstrings, including sweatpants, stretch pants, dance pants, knit pants and lounge pants.
- * Acceptable pants which have been altered.
- * Athletic wear

Hats

Hats may not be worn in school unless it is for religious purposes.

Dress-Up Days

On dress-up occasions, boys must wear a dress shirt, tie, dress slacks, and appropriate shoes. Girls must wear a dress, skirt or dress slacks and blouse or sweater, as well as appropriate shoes. Shoulders must be covered and no see-through material is allowed.

Students will be expected to keep themselves well-groomed and neatly dressed at all times. Any form of dress or hairstyle which is considered contrary to good hygiene or which is distracting or disruptive in appearance will not be permitted. All clothing must be clean, modest, and in good repair, free of holes, tears, or frayed hems. Hair color should be a natural color and body-piercing jewelry should be limited to ears.