

Community Day School DRESS CODE 2011-2012

Dress Code Drama! Who needs it? What is it good for? Why do we care?

There has been a lot of discussion among staff members and families regarding our school dress code. This is what we hear:

We spend too much time on it. Aren't there more important things to focus on?

Why do we care if someone's skirt is too short or if a shirt is hanging out?

Why do we care if someone's pants are too tight or if their sweater is not a school color?

We agree! We would like to spend zero time refining and enforcing the dress code!

Here's how you can help:

- Understand the reasons for uniform dress/dress codes in schools.
- Support the dress code (even if you don't agree with it!). It is a school rule.
- Make shopping for uniform dress/dress code clothes fun and get it right the first time. Then, take a deep breath and focus on other things for the year!

Here's how we can help:

- Clarify and simplify the code (we are doing that below for the coming school year).
- Enforce the code consistently and all the time.
- Model appropriate dress each spring for parents and students to facilitate shopping and planning for the coming year (see attached photo guide).

Community Day School Statement of Philosophy Regarding School Attire

- Wearing a school uniform is a proud tradition at many high achieving schools. Uniform dress helps to create a sense of place and purpose, separating school time from other more casual times of a students' life.
- At school, clothing should not be a distraction nor should clothing offer an opportunity to compete in terms of fashion or physical attractiveness.
- Our school dress code has evolved over the years with the intention to accommodate the active lives of our students, the financial stresses on families, and the school's desired level of decorum.
- Compliance with the school dress code implies much more than the particulars of the code would seem to represent. Neat and modest attire, some degree of uniformity, and respectful compliance with the code as one of many school rules, all signal an overall sense of dignity and respect for ourselves and for our greater purpose.

COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL DRESS CODE for 2011-2012

PANTS: ALL age students:

Khaki or navy chino, cargo or slack style. Cotton, blend or corduroy pants; **not** tight jean or skinny styles: must be able to “pinch an inch” all the way to the ankle.

These styles ARE available at **School Uniform sites:** suggested-oldnavy.com or landsend.com, but there are other stores that carry the proper styles in khaki or navy.

In warm weather khaki or navy capri pants or walking shorts are permitted **to the top of knee** or below.

SKIRTS, SKORTS, AND JUMPERS:

The ONLY accepted **plaid pattern** is #121 Schoolbelles
(www.schoolbelles.com www.schoolbelles.com 888 637-3037)

SOLID NAVY AND TAN, KNEE LENGTH STYLES
(available at Old Navy, Lands’ End and other “school uniform” sites)

SHIRTS: short or long sleeved, collared, Polo style **only**
NO LOGOS or designs (no turtlenecks or button down)

Grades 1-5: Solid navy, black, white, yellow, forest green
Grades 6-8: Any solid color (available at Old Navy, Lands’ End, “school uniform” sites)
Never excessively tight

NO visible LAYERING; undershirts only at the neckline; tops must overlap pants or skirt

SOCKS AND LEG WEAR: Only white, navy or black socks, or knee highs; to the ankle or full length tights.

SWEATSHIRTS/SWEATERS FOR LOWER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS:
Plain navy, black, white, or CDS zipper, crew neck or hooded sweatshirts **ONLY**
Solid plain cardigan or solid plain pullover sweaters in uniform colors (navy, black, white)

GYM: Middle school students must wear CDS t-shirt and CDS shorts, with gym shoes and socks

No outerwear permitted in classrooms

Boys must, and girls may, wear **kippot** except at gym and recess

DRESS ALTERNATIVES:

(These days represent a privilege that will be revoked for students that do not routinely comply with the dress code)

Dress Down usually allows for basketball shorts, jeans, sweatpants and t-shirts

Specific Themed days may be announced as well

NEVER wear sleeveless tanks or torn clothing, or leggings, jeggings, or skin tight clothing

Dress up days: ties, dresses of knee length or as specifically described for a holiday or event

SHOES: safe and secure: laced, tied, fastened, fitted, sandals or boots

Consequences to Dress Code Violations (Lower School and Middle School)

1. **Lower School:** First violation, parent will be notified and student will be warned.

Middle School: First violation, parent will be notified and student will serve detention (lunch).

2. **Lower School:** Second violation, parent will be notified and student will serve recess detention.

Middle School: Second violation, student will serve after-school detention AND middle schoolers will miss one exploratory class per week to focus on learning to comply with school policies for the remainder of the trimester in which the second violation occurs.

3. **Lower School:** Third violation, meeting will be held with parent and student to review proper attire. Individual behavior plan will be established.

Middle School: After three violations, dress down day privileges will be revoked for the remainder of the trimester in which the third violation occurs. Individual behavior plan will be established AND consequences at increasing levels of severity will be implemented.

NEATNESS, CLEANLINESS, MODESTY, SIMPLICITY, AND GOOD TASTE ARE OUR GOALS.