

## **DRESS AND APPEARANCE CODES**

**Philosophy** – Personal appearance is expected to reflect a Christian respect for the individual and for the rights and sensibilities of others. St. Vincent de Paul High School students are expected to be clean and neat in their personal grooming and dress, observing standards of modesty, moderation, and good taste in school and at school related activities. Outlandish or distracting appearance that detracts from the teaching and learning process is unacceptable. Parents are responsible to see that their students leave home in compliance with these standards. The enforcement of grooming and dress standards is the responsibility of the faculty supported by the Dean's Office. The administration reserves the right to amend or change policies as it deems appropriate.

**Consequences** – When a student is made aware that he or she is in violation of the dress or appearance codes, the violation must be corrected to the greatest extent possible before the student is allowed to return to class. For example, the student will be required to change into the appropriate clothing (supplied by the school at cost to the student, or brought to school by the student's parents), shave if unshaven, or remove excessive makeup, jewelry, etc.

Students referred to the Dean for violating the dress or appearance codes will receive a detention. A total of four dress code detentions in a semester will result in a parent conference.

## **GROOMING**

**Hair** – Students' hair shall be clean, neatly groomed, and not cut in distracting or unusual styles which include, but are not limited to: Mohawks, spikes, excessive braids/beading, etc. Unnatural coloring, streaking, or bleaching is also inappropriate. Boys must be clean shaven with sideburns no longer than the bottom of the earlobe. Boys' hair length must not exceed the back of the collar.

**Jewelry** – Excessive jewelry is not allowed. Body or facial piercings other than the ears are not allowed.

**Make-up** – Excessive or distracting make-up is inappropriate. Face paint, glitter or stickers on the face, or writing on one's arms or hands is not permitted.

**Tattoos** – Tattoos are not permitted. Students who have an existing tattoo must have it completely covered during school and school related activities.

## **DRESS CODE**

**Headgear** – Hats, caps, visors, bandanas, sweatbands, and any other head coverings are not allowed to be worn or held before, during, or after school inside school premises. Hoods may not be worn in school buildings.

**Shirts** – Long or short sleeved polo shirts, of any color or pattern, are the only shirts permitted. Polo shirts must be properly and modestly buttoned, neither too tight nor too loose, and must fall below the waistband to prevent underwear or midriff from showing. A St. Vincent or college T-Shirt may be worn on the last day of the school week.

**Outerwear** – Sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, and coats are allowed. Sweatshirt hoods may not be worn inside school buildings. Overalls are not permitted.

**Pants/Walking Shorts** – Pants/shorts must be clean, neat, hemmed, and properly fitting, neither too tight nor too baggy. They may not sag, exposing underwear or midriff. Pants may not contain writing. Athletic pants, athletic shorts, sweat pants, pajama pants, parachute pants, and any pants/shorts made out of spandex, flannel, and velour fabrics are not allowed. Shorts can be no more than 2 inches above the knee.

**Skirts** – Girls may wear skirts of any color or pattern, providing they are not too tight and no more than 2 inches above the knee. A modest slit is acceptable.

**Footwear** – Dress, casual, and athletic shoes are permitted. No open toe shoes, sandals, flip flops, netted shoes, or slippers are allowed.

**General Provisions** – No item of clothing may contain logos, designs, or messages that are inappropriate or that represent drug, alcohol, tobacco products, or unacceptable entities. (Sunglasses are not to be worn during school hours.)

### **GAME DAY ATTIRE**

Members of athletic teams are permitted formal attire approved by the Athletic Department (jersey, team shirt, athletic pullover, etc.); all other criteria of the dress code apply, e.g., basketball players may not wear basketball shorts, track athletes may not wear sweatpants, etc. If team members wear a shirt and tie, the shirt must be a collared dress shirt, tucked in, worn with appropriate trousers with belt and dress shoes. Cheerleaders may be attired in their uniform tops and warm-up pant bottoms, not skirts.

### **SPECIAL EVENT / LITURGY DAY ATTIRE**

Liturgy days and special events require more formal attire than regular school days. On such days, students will be expected to come to school in dress up clothing similar to business or professional dress and remain dressed properly for the entire day. On such occasions, modesty should prevail and a distinction should be made between dressing up for church and dressing up for a date or going out to dinner.

Boys may wear a collared dress shirt (tucked in) and tie, dress trousers with belt, and dress shoes (no athletic shoes).

Girls may choose one of the following manners of dress: 1. a dress. 2. A blouse, polo, or sweater with a skirt. 3. A blouse, polo, or sweater with dress slacks. Dresses, blouses, polos, and sweaters shall fit appropriately and not be backless, strapless, or display cleavage or midriff. Fabric shall not be sheer nor shall undergarments be visible. Hems of dresses and skirts shall not be more than 2 inches above the knee. Dress shoes must be worn with heels no longer than 2 inches. Flats are recommended, considering the walk to St. Vincent de Paul Church. Sandals, Ugg-type boots, and athletic shoes are not allowed.

**DANCE DRESS CODE = REFER TO DRESS CODE FOR DANCES.**