

DRESS CODE

The purpose of a school dress code is to improve the appearance, attentiveness and learning capability of the students. A dress code will instill better order among students and reduce the cliquy/status effects of labeled clothing. It is the sincere belief of St Paul Lutheran School that students who take care of their appearance are less likely to find themselves in behavior problems and more likely to find themselves in academic success.

In all matters regarding dress and appearance, the principal, representing the Board of Parish Education, retains the right to declare dress and/or appearance unacceptable for school. Students will not be allowed to attend classes until any infraction of the dress code is resolved to the satisfaction of the principal. Repeated offenses may result in further consequences, including detention. The principal has the authority to designate special exceptions.

I. General Considerations

- A. No **outdoor** jackets or hats are to be worn in the building at any time.
- B. Fabrics such as those found in sweatpants, spandex, or fleece shall not be worn at school.
- C. No clothing will have **excessive (2x3)** trimmings, frills, pictures, designs, or words. (St. Paul insignia is allowed.)
- D. Neither make-up nor unnatural hair coloration will be allowed.
- E. All clothing is to be free of rips, tears, frays, and patches; and is to fit properly.

II. Shirts/Sweaters

- A. T-shirts are not allowed.
- B. All shirts (except sweaters) must have collars.
- C. Shirts/Sweaters will have a neckline **no more than 2 inches below the collarbone.**
- D. Shirts will be tucked in at all times and must be of sufficient length to remain tucked in.
- E. Sweaters will extend at least 3 inches below the belt line.
- F. Sweaters may be kept in lockers for when children are cold.**

III. Pants/Skirts/Dresses/Shorts

- A. Pants, skirts, dresses, capris, and shorts will be in **solid colors, floral, striped, or plaid only.**
- B. Pants will not flair excessively at the ankles nor will the hem touch the ground.
- C. Skirts and shorts will be **no shorter than four inches above the knee when kneeling.**
- D. Shorts and capris will be worn only in August, September, May, and June

IV. Shoes

- A. All shoes must have backs or straps.
- B. Heels must be less than 2 inches in height
- C. Socks or nylons will be worn at all times.
- D. Wheeled shoes (such as Heelys) or crocs are not permitted.**

V. Special Considerations

A. Thursday Chapel—Students are encouraged to **DRESS UP** on Thursdays each week as part of preparation for weekly chapel services. Dress up may include dress that is worn for Sunday church service or special occasions. The students are encouraged to stand out (in a positive way) from the normal dress code of the rest of the week. **Boys, all shirts must be tucked in. Girls, tie-back style shirts do not need to be tucked in. All other shirts must be tucked in.**

B. Game day for athletic teams—On game day, athletes should stand out from the rest of the student body. Gentlemen should wear dress pants, button-down dress shirts with collars and a tie. Ladies must wear dress pants or a skirt of appropriate length (ladies' pants should be dress pants and not just khaki/colored pants). This dress code should be worn during the game day as well as to the event. After games, the athletes should return to their dress code (except for the last team to play). If a student athlete chooses not to wear the proper attire, then he or she will forfeit playing the first quarter of the sporting event.

C. PE Clothing – Grades 5-8 are required to have PE clothing on PE class days. Students must have a St. Paul t-shirt and appropriate-fitting gym shorts. As cooler weather approaches, athletic pants and St. Paul sweatshirts will be permitted during PE times.