

## **Uniform Dress Code**

Research has shown that schools that have adopted a uniform policy show improved academics and fewer behavioral violations. The purpose of a uniform dress code is to ensure student safety, assist students in wearing modest clothing, and protect the academic integrity of the school.

The following styles and colors have been approved by the LCER Board of Directors:

### **Shirts**

Colors – white, navy, black and gray (solid colors only)

Styles – polo shirts, button-down oxford style shirts. Shirts may not be a sheer material (see-through).

- All shirts must be at a length that prevents underclothing or midriff from showing.
- Button shirts must be buttoned from the third top button to the waist.
- Non-uniform shirts cannot be worn over the school uniform.
- No designs, jewels, studs, etc.

### **Pants**

Colors – khaki, navy, black (solid colors only)

Styles – pants, shorts, skorts, and skirts. Must be made of a uniform fabric. Fabric types inconsistent with AAE uniform expectations would include, but not be limited to corduroy, jersey, sheer, shiny, laced or patterned fabrics.

Blue jeans are allowed on Fridays, minimum days, and designated spirit days. They are not permitted on other days, including early release Wednesdays.

- Pants must fit snugly at the waist, utilizing a belt to keep pants at waist level. ● Belts must be worn properly, tucked into belt loops and may not hang down.
- Pants shall be unaltered, hemmed at the bottom, not faded, and free of holes or decorations.
- Shorts, skirts, skorts and jumpers may be no shorter than five (5) inches above the knee.
- Leggings worn under the aforementioned styles must be of a solid uniform color for grades 6-12.
- Leggings cannot be worn separately as pants in any grade.
- Jeggings and overalls are not permitted.

### **TK-5 Distinctives**

- Uniform style jumpers and polo dresses are allowed in khaki, navy, black and gray.
- Solid color sweatpants in navy or black are allowed.
- Tights and leggings have no color restrictions, but must be worn under approved pant styles.

## **AFJROTC**

All AFJROTC uniforms are considered to be an AAE school uniform.

### **Outerwear**

Jackets, coats, sweatshirts, sweaters and windbreakers (and any other items considered outerwear) shall reflect the chosen uniform colors only and cannot contain additional, non-uniform colors as accents, excluding zippers or interior linings. Outerwear does not need to be a solid color and may have a print or pattern. Lightweight shirts such as long-sleeved T-shirts or flannel shirts are not considered outerwear. The only sports jackets permitted are those representing AAE school athletics. Trench coats are not permitted. Uniform shirts must be worn under outerwear and students are subject to verification checks.

### **Other Guidelines**

- All shoes, including sandals, are permitted provided they have a strap on the back and shoelaces are tied securely and snugly. Open-toed shoes are not allowed in grades TK-5. Students may not wear sandals during PE/Athletic classes, or other classes that involve outdoor physical activity. Shoes may not reflect the occult or gang affiliations. Slippers and flip-flops are not permitted.
- Hair must be of a natural-born color. It may not be worn or styled in a manner that distracts from the educational process (i.e. Mohawk, fauxhawk, striped, engraved styles, or anything deemed distracting by school administration).
- Tattoos or drawings on the body may not be visible while on campus.
- Facial piercings are not allowed at the AAE. A small, single, clear “retainer” is permitted in the nose. Ear piercings are permitted, but gauges are not allowed.
- Clothing accessories (belts, buckles, hats, beanies, scarves, ties, etc.) must reflect the chosen uniform dress code colors and be free of embellishments that are immodest, reflect gang affiliations or the occult (skulls, crossbones, knives, symbols of death, etc.). All hats must be removed indoors. Hats must be worn properly with the bill of the cap straightforward. Bandanas or sweatbands are not permitted.
- Face coverings worn during a pandemic have no color restrictions.
- Students may wear hair bows or hair bands with no color restrictions as long as they do not detract from the learning environment (e.g.-Mickey/Minnie ears, cat ears, unicorn horn, etc.).
- Metal chains and studs may not be worn as necklaces, on belts or as a bracelet.
- Backpacks are to be kept neat and free from excessive/distracting writing, drawings, buttons, indicative of gang affiliation or other decorations.
- Gang affiliated clothing and all professional sports clothing will not be permitted. Administration reserves the right to determine and update policy on gang affiliated clothing based on current trends.

Students attending the AAE are required to follow the dress code. Students not dressed appropriately will be required to call home to have their parents bring an appropriate change of clothes. When a change of clothes is not available, students will be offered “loaner” clothes.

Some classes/school activities may occasionally require clothing that varies from the established uniform policy. Students will be notified in advance of the day and time. The clothing worn must still be modest in nature and reflect the tone of the AAE uniform policy.

In exceptional circumstances, including but not limited to health, safety or religious exercise, administration may waive an aspect of the AAE Uniform Dress Code as applied to a particular student. Waiver Requests must be submitted in writing and will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

### **Spirit Days**

ASB will determine Spirit Days in advance. Guidance will be provided as to allowed and disallowed clothing styles. In general, no dress may be immodest, distracting to the educational environment, reflective of gang affiliation or the occult. At no time, are tank tops or sleeveless tops allowed.

### **Knightly Dress Day/Field Trips**

Fridays and minimum days are designated as Knightly Dress Days. Students are encouraged to participate by wearing AAE or collegiate wear. Blue denim jeans and AAE or college t-shirts, polo shirts or sweatshirts are acceptable wear. Clothing from any school-related organization including ASB, AFJROTC, SRLA, GAVRT, school clubs, as well as the US Armed Forces and NASA, may be worn.

Knightly Dress Days are not free dress days and students must either wear Knightly Dress or the standard AAE uniform. Knightly Dress clothing must not be immodest, shall be free of holes, and patches. The bottom of pants/shorts must be hemmed and may be no more than five (5) inches above the knee. Knightly Dress Day attire is considered appropriate for field trips unless a teacher or administrator directs otherwise.