

PCA Middle School Dress Code

General Philosophy

At our school, we value each student's unique identity, recognizing that individuality shines through one's character, actions, and beliefs. We believe that a student's outward presentation can powerfully communicate confidence, respect, and purpose.

Our dress code is designed to support a learning environment where students can focus on what matters most—growing in wisdom, building community, and pursuing excellence. By choosing clothing that is neat, modest, and well-fitting, students contribute to a culture of respect and unity, where everyone feels comfortable and valued.

We've intentionally selected dress code options that are comfortable and accessible, helping students represent themselves and our school well. We encourage families and students to choose attire that aligns with the spirit of the guidelines—simple, appropriate, and free of distraction—so that nothing gets in the way of learning, growing, and connecting. Land's End is PCA's preferred vendor and is the standard of excellence for our dress code. However, families are welcome to buy clothing that matches that standard from vendors of their choosing.

Our dress code categorizes attire into standard, special, active, and casual options to ensure students are appropriately dressed for every school occasion.

When questions arise, we welcome the opportunity to talk them through together. When in doubt, choosing a more classic or modest option is usually a wise and respectful choice.

Policy Enforcement

Faculty and principals exercise oversight and make final decisions regarding the dress code. Should a student's attire not meet the guidelines, a communication will be sent home to inform parents and guardians. After three such notifications, a parent or guardian will be asked to bring the appropriate attire to school for the student. Consistent non-compliance may lead to further steps.

Standard Attire (every day)

- Standard fit, solid color polo (short or long sleeve)
- Khaki or navy colored chino pants or shorts (less than 2 inches above knee)
- Belt required if bottoms have belt loops

Special Attire (chapel, concerts)

- Standard button-down collar shirt, short or long sleeve; white or blue
- Black, khaki, or navy colored chino pants

Active Attire (P.E., Field Day, etc.)

- Burgundy, grey, or white crew neck t-shirt (short or long sleeve) with PCA logo
- PCA team t-shirts are also acceptable
- Black, burgundy, or Grey athletic shorts (at least 7-inch inseam), sweatpants, or track pants
- Active attire should be loose-fitting

Footwear

- Shoes, sneakers, boots, and sandals (not flip flops)
- Non-marking athletic shoes are required for P.E.

Additional Layers

- V-neck & crew neck sweater, ¼ zip pullover cardigan, vest, and fleece jacket
- Must be worn over an approved collared shirt
- May include PCA-approved logo
- PCA-approved Spirit Wear sweatshirts must not be worn indoors during the school day, except on a Casual Day.

Accessories & Appearance

- Belts must be in good repair
- Ties must fit snugly at the collar and reach belt length; string ties are not permitted
- Hair must be neat, of natural color, and styled traditionally
 - Hair must not extend below the collar; tails and ponytails are not permitted for boys
- Tattoos and body piercings are not permitted
- No more than two earrings per ear for ladies (small hoops & studs only)
- Socks worn with shorts must be solid neutral colors

Outerwear & Hats

- Outer garments, including hooded sweatshirts and fleece not listed above, must be removed upon entering and stored on hooks or in lockers
- All hats, kerchiefs, and head coverings must be removed upon entering and remain off until departure

Additional Guidelines for Boys

- Belts must be worn and shirts tucked in on special attire days
- Ties or bowties must be worn on special attire days and may be removed only for recess

Additional Guidelines for Girls

- May wear feminine-fit polo shirts
- May wear skirts or skorts (must fit to the knee; several hem lengths are available)

- Chapel tops may include button-down oxford or Peter Pan collared shirts in white or blue; blouses may be worn untucked, but undergarments must not be visible
- Chapel bottoms may include skirts (to the knee, navy or khaki); skirts must fit to the knee—if more than 3 inches above, it is a violation
- Tights, leggings, or compression shorts in solid neutral colors may be worn under skirts
- May wear up to two earrings per earlobe, along with tasteful necklaces, and bracelets