

UME Prep Dress Code Policy

Purpose: The goal of the Uniform Dress Code is to achieve an environment conducive to learning, supports an effective and safe school environment, respect for both the student and other student's modesty, and to initiate a discipline that will be required for future college and work place environments.

Enforcement: The dress code will be enforced in a uniform and consistent manner for all of our student scholars. There will be a progressive approach to enforcement which will include the following steps:

- **First Offense** - the student will be told that they are not in compliance and will receive a verbal warning and noted in the student tracking system maintained by the Director of Student Development, and an email will be sent to parents;
- **Second Offense** – the student will be told they are not in compliance and will receive a demerit and an email will be sent to parents.
- **Third Offense** – the student will be told they are not in compliance and student will need to be picked up by a parent at the time of the counseling. At this point the student will not be able to participate in any sport or extracurricular activity for a week from the date of infraction;
- **Fourth Offense** – the student will be told they are not in compliance with the dress code and a meeting will be scheduled with the student, parent, and with either the Director of Student Development for Young Men or the Director of Student Development for Young Women to explore possible solutions to the ongoing problem.
- **Fifth Offense** – the student will be suspended for two days;
- **Sixth Offense** – the student will be suspended for three days;
- **All Subsequent Offenses** will receive the same three day suspensions.
- If a student comes to the school and aggressively breaks the school policy, the student will be required to go home and change into an acceptable uniform.

Security and Safety: A uniform code of dress aids in providing a ready means of supervising and keeping track of those individuals that are associated with the Academy and those who are not enrolled. Also, the uniform was designed to minimize the ability of students to keep or carry hidden items on their person that pose a threat to the safety and well-being of others.

The administration of the school will remain sensitive to the parent's comments and concerns. The policy will be reviewed annually to assure our Board, Parents, and Staff are accomplishing the goals listed under the purpose section of this policy.

Lower Wear/Pants/Shorts

- Only khaki and navy blue pants/shorts are permitted; pants and shorts may not have cargo pockets or be made of t-shirt material, denim, nor stretch material (Spandex, Lycra, etc.) of any kind.
- Only Khaki and navy Capri's are permitted;
- For Kindergarten through the first grade, elastic waistbands are required unless the student is able to dress/undress themselves without adult supervision;
- Pants and shorts may not be excessively small, tight, or too large;
- Shorts need to be no more than 2 inches above the knee;
- All students above the 1st grade must wear belts if the pant has belt loops. Belts should be either black, brown, or white;

Skirts/Skort/Scooters/Jumpers

- Only Khaki and navy blue skirts, skorts, scooters or scoop-necked jumpers may be worn; these may have a pocket but cargo pockets will not be allowed. The aforementioned items of dress may not be made of t-shirt material, denim, or stretch fabric (Spandex or Lycra).
- For Kindergarten through the 1st grade, the student may wear an elastic waistband, but all other grades will need to wear a belt if they have belt loops;
- These items of clothing should not be worn any more than 2 inches above the knee;
- All uniforms should be modestly worn;
- Since modesty is one of our dress code goals, it is recommended to wear shorts under skirts and jumpers.
- Items which have a belt loop should be worn with a belt;

Upper wear

- All upper wear must be an approved garment;
- If you are in an age category which requires a tucked in shirt(3rd -10th grade), the shirt tails should be tucked in the entire time the student is on school premises;
- UME Prep encourages our Kindergarten and 1st & 2nd graders to tuck in their shirts, but it is not required.
- Plain, collared polo/golf shirts may be worn. Short or long sleeves are an acceptable option. The shirt may have a pocket. The school's colors are as follows – Red, Navy Blue, White, Gray, and Black.
- All shirts must be worn appropriately and professionally, buttoned up to an acceptable manner while on campus or attending off school activities;
- All shirts must adequately cover the student's body (no skin around the waist of the student should be showing, all under garments must be covered, and no cleavage should be exposed.
- Nothing should in anyway be written on these shirts unless it is a school logo or has received prior approval by the Superintendent; Designer emblems must be less than 2 square inches in size, while official school emblems are permitted;
- Traditional oxford style shirts may be worn and can have a pocket. Long or short sleeves are acceptable; (Denim, stretch material, or spandex will not be acceptable) The shirt must be one of the five approved school colors;
- Females may wear oxfords but the same rules apply, but the females can be sleeveless as long as its cut is modestly worn;
- Spirit shirts, PE shirts, athletic jerseys, may only be worn on school wide occasions or Spirit Days that are approved by the Dean of Academics and the Superintendent;

Sweaters/Vests/Cardigans:

- Sweaters, sweater vests, and cardigans are approved optional uniform items;
- The colors of these items need to be the school's colors – Red, Navy Blue, White, Gray, Black;
- These items should not be excessively tight, large, and not revealing of any skin or undergarments;
- None of the previously mentioned uniforms should be made of denim, t-shirt material, spandex, or lycra;
- Sweaters, sweatshirts, sweater vests, or cardigans may have hoodies on them, but must be able to be zipped up, and the hood of the hoodies may not be worn inside the school building.

Undershirts:

- Undershirts may be worn if they are clean, neatly worn, and minimally seen;
- If an undershirt is worn, the outer shirt must comply with the school's standards. The undershirt must be one of the five approved school colors and must be a solid color. They may not be a pattern, have lace, and not show a visible insignia or written statement.

Shoes and Footwear

- Shoes, boots, and tennis shoes may be worn, but must be appropriately worn. Most colors will be acceptable. Shoe laces must be tied; no lace, no glitter, nor sequences can be added.
- No heels on shoes can exceed 2 inches;
- For Kindergarten and first grade, Velcro is required, unless the student is able to tie his or her shoelaces unaided;
- No open-toe shoes or sandals can be worn at any time;
- House shoes, slippers, moccasins, crocs, shoes with wheels, or shoes with lights are not to be worn;
- All shoes must be worn completely, fully tied/Velcro with the feet inside;
- Boots may be worn as long as they are styled in a manner in which they reflect the values of the school. They cannot be styled in a militaristic or distracting manner. There cannot be outwardly visible insignia or brands written on the boots;

Socks

- Socks may be of any color, but they must be a solid color (minimal markings like a simple stripe or simple logo are permissible). Socks cannot be distracting to the learning process and should not be illuminated with lights. Socks need to be worn with shoes;
- Girls are permitted to wear panty hose, tights, knee-highs, and footie socks that do not draw attention to themselves/the student or distract from the learning process; (fish net are not allowed)
- Leg warmers are not permitted.

Hair Accessories

- Hair bands, headbands, bows or ribbons may be worn in any color so long as they are not distracting to other students or the teacher. Hair accessories may not be worn by boys;
- Other hair adornments or accessories like flowers, feathers, scrunchies, or jewelry may be worn, if they are not distracting to other students or the teacher;
- Large or sharp hairpins/hair accessories are not permitted.

Head Covering

- No hats or other head coverings, including scarves, and bandanas are not permitted to be worn in the building; any head coverings must be removed once the student enters the building. Those who need religious exceptions should confer with the Director of Student Development for men or women.

Jewelry

- Girls may wear up to 2 earrings per ear; no other pierced jewelry is allowed and boys may not wear earrings or pierced jewelry.
- Jewelry may not represent or contain inappropriate content as determined by the Director of Student Development for men or women;
- Jewelry must be modest in size and color, blending in with the school uniform;
- Loss of any jewelry will not be the responsibility of the school.

Facial Hair

- Students may have facial hair if it is clean and well groomed;

Hair

- Hair color should be natural in appearance, clean, and well-groomed;

Winter wear

- Students may wear any properly sized jacket, coat, wind-breaker to school, but they must not have any wording, images, or other branding;
- Students are not allowed to wear trench coats at any time;
- Approved jackets may be worn in and out of class, but students may be asked to remove them by the teacher, staff, or administration should there be a reason to do so;
- HOODIES
 - Hoodies are defined by the Academy to be sweatshirts with a hood that are pulled over your clothes or light jackets/garments with a hood that are designed to be worn over other garments and made out of t-shirt or sweatshirt material;
 - Approved HOODIES must fully zip all the way down the garment and are a solid gray, navy blue, red, or white color;
 - The hood of Hoodies may not be worn inside the school building;
- Hats, hoods, earmuffs, ear-warming headbands, etc. may not be worn in the building.

Special Day Wear

- The Superintendent reserves the right to grant special wear days that are different from the standard uniform code of dress;
- Special wear days are a privilege granted from time to time as a means of promoting school spirit, but a student should not abuse the Special Day or the privilege will be withdrawn;
- For Special and Spirit days the Academy guidelines of modesty/safety/security will always apply;
- Only on specially approved days will blue jeans or denim apparel be approved;
- On Spirit days student will be allowed to wear Academy approved t-shirts, polos, or sweatshirt with their regular uniform pants;
- Shirts may be worn un-tucked on Spirit or Jeans/Denim days
- Ripped, torn, or excessively tight/baggy jeans are not ever permitted;
- Spirit Day will not occur every Friday.

Theme Day Dress

- The Superintendent or the Dean of Academics may permit dress to coordinate a theme day related to academic instruction;
- A student's modesty and security should always be maintained;
- Theme days will be communicated by the Superintendent through the Dean of Academics

Student Activities/Athletic Groups Miscellaneous Items

- Activity groups such as the Student Council and Honor Society may wear academy approved t-shirts on their days to meet, Athletic Teams may wear their jerseys on approved Spirit days;
- Athletes will change into their practice or game wear as prescribed by their corresponding coach's instructions;
- Groups leaving for Field Trips are representing the school and will be required to wear the school's regular uniforms;

Other Miscellaneous

- The administration of the school reserves the right to change or modify this policy as needed. All exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Superintendent.

PE Standard Dress Code

PE class dress out for students will begin in 5th grade.

Required PE shirts are available for your purchase on our online spirit store location (screenedthreads.com/umeprep). You can choose either the navy or gray option as they are not gender specific. A purchase of a PE shirt acts as the PE class activity fee. Solid navy athletic shorts are our standard for bottoms. Navy shorts are available on our online spirit store for your purchase if you are unable to find them at a local retailer. For PE shorts purchased at a retail store, small logos will be ok, absolutely no stripes or other designs.

Cold Weather Days:

For jackets, coats, and hoodies: refer to the standard dress code for acceptable options. Cold weather head gear such as stocking hats or ear muffs will be acceptable. Solid navy sweats or any navy or gray sweats with UME Prep on them will be acceptable.