

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 an email will be sent to parents. One demerit.
- **Third Offense** – the student will be told they are not in compliance and an email will be sent to parents. Two demerits. Director of Student Development will meet with parents and share a copy of Dress Code.
- **Fourth Offense** – the student will be told they are not in compliance and student will need to be picked up by a parent or a change of clothes will need to be brought. Three demerits. 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;
- **Fifth Offense** – the student will be suspended for one day;

Enforcement Summary	
First Offense	Verbal Warning, Documented, Parent Email
Second Offense	1 Demerit, Parents Emailed
Third Offense	2 Demerits, Meet with Parent, Review Student Dress Code
Fourth Offense	3 Demerits, Parents will need to pick up child or bring change of clothes. No extracurricular activity for one week.
Fifth Offense	Student will be suspended for one day

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.

Note to Parents and Students: Uniforms with torn pants or shirts with holes are not allowed. All damaged uniform items should be replaced.

Additional Uniform Policy and Grooming Requirements and Limitations: In addition to wearing proper school uniforms, UME Preparatory Academy requires that students follow dress code guidelines. UME Prep prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the administration/staff/teacher judgement, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of, or interference with, normal school operations.

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.

Student Dress Code

Girls/Young Ladies:

Skirts, shorts or skorts

- Properly fitting khaki, navy or black (For all grade levels)
- Bottom hem may not be worn more than 2 inches above the knees
- No denim, cargo or stretch material (Spandex, Lycra, etc.) of any kind
- Leg warmers must be solid and school colors (fish net not allowed)

Pants (with belt if appropriate)

- Properly fitting khaki, navy or black
- No knits, spandex, jeans or oversized pants
- No denim, cargo or stretch material (Spandex, Lycra, etc.)
- Color belts may vary (K-4th belts optional)
- Pant legs may not be rolled up

Shirts

- Navy, gray, red, white or black
- Collared polo, oxford or button down
- Must be tucked in
- Short or long sleeve
- Plain or school logo only (designer emblems must be less than 2 square inches in size)

Boys/Young Men:

Pants with belt

- Properly fitting khaki, navy, or black (For all grade levels)
- Belts should be black, navy, brown, or white (K-4th belts optional)
- Pants legs may not be rolled up
- No denim, cargo or oversized pants

Shorts with belt

- Khaki, navy or black
- May not be more than 2 inches above the knees
- No cargo pockets

Shirts

- Navy, gray, red, white or black
- Collard polo, oxford or button down
- Must be tucked in
- Short or long sleeve
- Plain or school logo only (designer emblems must be less than 2 square inches in size)

All Students:

Sweaters/Sweatshirts/Cardigans, Pullover, or Vest

- Solid navy, gray, red, white or black
- May be worn over the approved shirt
- No denim, t-shirt material, spandex or lycra

Footwear

- Shoes: boots and tennis shoes
- No heels on shoes can exceed 2 inches
- Socks may be of any color, but they must be a solid color (simple logo/stripe are permissible)
- No open-toe shoes, sandals, mules, militaristic style boots or Crocs
- No Heelies (shoes with wheels)
- All shoes must have backs or secure straps on the heel
- Keep shoelaces tied at all times
- Shoes must be kept clean

Personal Appearance

- No facial or body piercings are allowed
- Girls may wear up to 2 earrings per ear; no other pierced jewelry is allowed and boys may not wear earrings or pierced jewelry
- No spike/gaged earrings. No spike necklaces or bracelets
- Necklaces must be tucked into uniform shirt
- Bracelets and necklaces are limited to 1 or 2
- No tattoos (permanent or temporary) may be showing
- No extreme hairstyles (Large Afros/Mohawk/Fohawk/Designs Cut and Spiked-Up) or extreme colored hair are allowed. Hair color should be natural in appearance, clean, and well groomed
Boys' hair may not pass the neck. Sideburns may be to the tip of the ear lobe
- Sunglasses are not permitted
- Students may have facial hair if it is clean and well groomed
- Large or sharp hairpins/hair accessories are not permitted
- Girls may wear tasteful make-up and nail polish that does not call attention to the student.

Outerwear

- No hats or other head covering, including scarves, and bandanas are 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.
- Students may wear any properly sized jacket, coat, hoodie, wind-breaker to school (no neon colors), but they must not have any offensive wording, messaging, images, or other branding.
- Hoodies may only be worn in the following colors: navy, gray, red, white or black. Hoodies may or may not have a zipper, but should not be excessively baggy. The hood of hoodies may not be worn inside the school building.
- No trench coats are allowed.

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.

Dress Code on Free Dress Days (If attendance requirement met or specially approved)

All general guidelines for dress apply on free dress days, even though school uniforms are not mandatory. Garments must be free of holes and tears, and any inappropriate wording, logos, messages or advertising. No short, skintight, or legging dresses, or skirts may be worn. Students may wear jeans, but they cannot be tight or skinny jeans. Clothing items must not depict images of violence, skulls, or offensive content. Parents will be called to bring a change of clothes or pick up a student if he or she violates the dress code.

Attendance Reward

When UME Prep students, as a whole, maintain a 97% or higher attendance rate for a four week period, they will be allowed free dress days for the following month. If they qualify, then communication will go out to families.

K-6: On Fridays only, students may wear jeans, and any school-approved uniform shirt or UME spirit wear.

7-11: On Mondays-Thursdays, students may wear jeans and any school-approved uniform shirt. On Fridays only, 7th-11th grade students may wear jeans and UME spirit wear. 9th-11th graders are permitted to wear college shirts/sweatshirts.

Theme Day Dress

- The Superintendent, Principal, or Dean 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 to families

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/Free Dress 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.