

Dress Code Philosophy

The purpose of the ECRCHS dress code is to ensure that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase stereotypes, marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body type/size. All students and staff are expected to dress in a professional and appropriate manner consistent with the academic environment. All students and staff shall be required to show proper attention to personal cleanliness. The following rules and guidelines are designed to help students thoroughly understand the expectations put upon them as they prepare for college, careers, and professional life after high school, as well as to nurture school pride and a focus on academics.

Our values are:

- All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment, without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- All students and staff should understand that they are responsible for managing their own personal image without regulating individual students' clothing/self-expression.
- Student dress code enforcement should not result in unnecessary barriers to school attendance.
- School staff should be trained and able to use student/body-positive language to explain the code and to address code violations.
- Teachers should focus on teaching without the additional and often uncomfortable burden of dress code enforcement.
- Reasons for conflict and inconsistent and/or inequitable discipline should be minimized whenever possible.

Our student dress code is designed to accomplish several goals:

- Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as science/shop (eye or body protection), dance (bare feet, tights/leotards), or PE (athletic attire/shoes).
- Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable, within the dress code.
- Allow students to wear clothing that expresses their self-identified gender, within the dress code.
- Allow students to wear religious attire without fear of discipline or discrimination.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories with offensive images or language, including profanity, hate speech, and pornography.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that denote, suggest, display, or reference violence and weapons, alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia, or other illegal conduct or activities.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that will interfere with the operation of the school, disrupt the educational process, invade the rights of others, or create a reasonably foreseeable risk of such interference or invasion of rights.
- Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories that reasonably can be construed as being, or including content that is, racist, lewd, vulgar or obscene, or that reasonably can be construed as containing fighting words, speech that incites others to imminent lawless action, defamatory speech, or threats to others.

- Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income or body type/size.