

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dress Code Guidelines

TOPS



Collared Shirt with Sleeves

Shirts must be polo style or button down.

PLDMS Spirit Shirt

Any PLDMS t-shirt issued by school or purchased from the school store is acceptable.

Prohibited

Non-collared shirts, non-PLDMS t-shirts, t-shirts worn over a collared shirt, sleeveless shirts or sheer tops, and t-shirts that are ripped, torn, inappropriate or have exposing cuts or styles are prohibited.

BOTTOMS



***ALL bottoms at minimum must touch the front and back of knee.**

Pants, Shorts, Capris, Bermuda Shorts, Skirts

All bottoms must be worn at the natural waistline, at minimum must touch the front and back of the knee, be properly fastened and free of rips, tears, or holes.

Dresses

Must have a collar, sleeves, no slits, and must touch the front and back of the knee, and not be form fitting.

Prohibited

Sweatpants, athletic pants/shorts, leggings, yoga or stretch pants, and all bottoms with rips or tears or holes are prohibited.

JACKETS & SHOES



Jackets, Cardigans, Sweaters

Jackets/sweaters with a zipper or buttons may be worn over appropriate collared shirts or spirit t-shirts. Jackets and sweaters must remain open.

Prohibited

Pullover sweatshirt hoodies are prohibited. Hats or jacket hoods must be down at all times.

Shoes

Closed toe shoes must be worn at all times.

Prohibited

Backless shoes, Crocs, slides, flip-flops, bedroom slippers, sandals, highs heels, or any other footwear considered unsafe are prohibited.

The purpose of the Dress Code is to encourage students to focus on the learning process without the distractions of unsuitable dress and grooming. Students shall maintain a clean, orderly appearance at all times. The responsibility for the personal appearance of the student rests with the parent/guardian and the student. Personal appearance shall not disrupt the educational process. A student who is dressed appropriately is demonstrating readiness to learn, is showing respect for self and others, is contributing to a safe and orderly learning environment.

MISCELLANEOUS NOT PERMITTED

- ☒ Articles of clothing, jewelry, or adornments that could likely cause injury—such as large earrings or hoops, chains, bracelets, rings, studs, chokers.
- ☒ Adornments, either attached or pierced to exposed body parts other than the ears.
- ☒ Apparel, emblems, insignias, badges, or symbols that promote the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence or any other illegal activity.
- ☒ Clothing with slogans or advertising which, by its controversial or obscene nature, disrupts the educational setting.
- ☒ Apparel or symbols which may be gang-related may not be displayed on a student, or on any item belonging to a student, at any time while on school property. Such symbols may be designated by administration, the school's Resource Officer or a law enforcement authority.
- ☒ Hairstyles or hair colors that are distracting.
- ☒ Earbuds, airpods and headphones must be stored in backpacks and out of sight during the school day.
- ☒ Hats, hoods, caps, bandannas, grooming combs, headgear, or sunglasses, except in conjunction with authorized athletic practices or activities, are prohibited.

*** There may be certain exceptions for medical conditions (with a doctor's note) or when physical education classes are held outside.