

10. Dress Code

Students are expected to wear the TMSA/QCSS uniform at all times and to dress and groom themselves in such a way as to reflect neatness, cleanliness and safety. All students should dress appropriately so as not to disrupt or interfere with the educational program or the orderly operation of the school. The principal or other authorized school official shall determine whether any particular use of the school uniform is in violation of the spirit and/or the intent of this school uniform policy. Students and parents are expected to honor the uniform code in order that valuable school time is not spent examining student attire to determine appropriateness.

General Uniform Guidelines

Students must be in complete uniform when they arrive at TMSA/QCSS. Uniforms are expected to remain intact and appropriately worn throughout the entire day at school. Students must remain in full uniform until after they leave TMSA/QCSS.

Students can only change out of their uniform if they are participating in PE class, sports, and/or other school activities that require flexible clothing or athletic gear. If a student changes clothes when not appropriate, disciplinary action will be taken. Students taking dual enrollment courses are expected to wear school uniforms for any courses they are attending at TMSA/QCSS.

- Shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- Pants or shorts may be khaki, navy blue, or black. Uniform pants must be worn.
- Jeans, leggings, and jeggings cannot be worn as uniform pants.
- Material may not be denim, suede, or corduroy.
- Pants or shorts may not be rolled or folded up. Shorts must be at least fingertip length and no longer than the top of the knee when standing.
- Athletic shorts are not permitted except for PE class or after school sports.
- The length of Bermudas, skirts, and skorts cannot be more than 3 inches above the knee.
- Solid uniform color leggings may be worn under skirts and skorts.

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- Pajama bottoms, jeans, pants, or other apparel may not be worn under the pants, capris, skorts, bermudas.
- Pants, capris, scooters, skorts, bermudas must be worn properly at the waist and not sag below the top of the hips.

Tops

The embroidered TMSA/QCSS school logo is required for all polo shirts. The logo should only be embroidered on the upper left side of the shirt.

Students may wear an outer layer over their logo polo shirt as needed for cooler temperatures. The logo is not required to be embroidered on this outer layer as long as the logo shirt is worn underneath. The outer layer should not have any brands or writing on them other than the school logo if desired. The outer layer should be a solid school color. The outer layer may not be tied/worn around the waist. This outer layer may include:

- Pullover sweatshirts (no hood)
- V-neck or crew neck sweaters
- Cardigan/button sweaters
- Sweater vests
- Full or half zipper fleece
- A long-sleeve solid, school-colored shirt may be worn under the short-sleeve embroidered polo shirt for warmth.
- Shirt colors follow school colors.
- On Fridays only, TMSA/QCSS Spirit shirts are allowed as a top.

Shoes

The emphasis on shoes is safety. For that reason, all shoelaces must be tied properly, all buckles fastened, all straps/velcro secured. Nothing may dangle or drag from the shoe. Shoes must be closed-toed dress shoes, athletic shoes, or boots. Socks or tights must be worn daily.

The following are not permitted at school:

- Heels
- Wheels or roller shoes
- Lights, glitter, sequins, or jewels on the shoe
- Slippers, flip-flops, open-toed shoes, and slides
- Fish-net stockings
- Leg warmers.

Physical Education Uniforms

Middle and high school students may be required to dress out during their scheduled physical education classes in a PE uniform. If students are required to dress out, they must wear the PE uniform that can be purchased through our vendor.

Miscellaneous Guidelines

All outside coats and jackets or hoodies may not be worn inside the school building – this includes windbreakers during the school day. All outside coats and jackets or hoodies must be put in the student's locker immediately upon entering the school building. Students who are a part of an athletic team may

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be permitted to wear athletic apparel on Fridays in lieu of spiritwear.

- The bottom two or three buttons on the uniform shirt must be buttoned at all times.
- Clothing should be neat and clean.
- Clothing may not be worn inside out or backwards.
- Undergarments must not be exposed.
- Hair, face, and body paint are inappropriate for school and not permitted.
- Cosmetics and/or make-up should be age-appropriate, appropriate for school, and not attract undue attention.
- Jewelry and accessories should be appropriate for school and not attract undue attention or pose a safety risk.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted and should not attract undue attention.
- Hats, caps, curlers, headscarves, bandanas, doo-rags, picks, combs, brushes, chains, sunglasses, gloves, arm warmers, and coats are not to be worn during school hours. Headwraps for religious or cultural purposes are permitted. Headwraps should be a solid color that coordinates with the school colors.
- Excessive multiple piercings are not allowed while in uniform so as not to attract undue attention or pose a safety risk.
- Dress Down Day guidelines also include:
 - Students are expected to wear appropriate clothing on dress down days.

- Clothing that is excessively revealing, such as short mini-skirts, short-shorts, tank tops, loosely fitting, low-cut blouses or halter tops, sheer/mesh shirts, or shirts exposing the midriff are not to be worn to school.
- All t-shirts must be in good taste (no suggestive wording or illustrations or advertisements for items which are illegal for students - i.e., alcohol and tobacco products, etc.).

The administration at each school reserves the right to evaluate and rule upon any dress, grooming, or student appearance that is not consistent with a safe, non-distracting educational environment that may or may not be contained in this policy. This would include but is not limited to, new trends or fads in fashion which may have been unknown at the time of the policy's approval by the Board of Directors.

Dress Code Violations

There are two types of dress code violations:

1. Dress code violations we **can** modify at school:

Example: have students remove articles of clothing that are not prohibited - hats, jackets, sweaters, etc.

Students will be asked to correct their dress code violations.

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2. Dress code violations we **cannot** modify at school:

Example: Not wearing a uniform top and not having one on hand

Parents will be contacted and required to bring the students proper attire.

Students who violate the dress code will receive a discipline referral.