

## **VHCA DRESS CODE**

**Overall**, a student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails, shall:

1. Be **CLEAN, NEAT, MODEST** and **FREE OF HOLES**
2. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
3. Ensure that under-garments are completely covered with outer clothing.
4. Hats, bandanas, and sunglasses must be placed in the lockers or backpacks upon entrance to school.

### **Pants, Leggings, Shorts & Capris**

1. Pants must be waist high and loose fitting.
2. **NO** sweatpants.
3. Leggings (to the ankle) MAY NOT be worn as pants, and if worn, there shall be a shirt-dress, a dress or a skirt that is  **fingertip length** – front and back, not see-through, etc. Form fitting, running pants are considered leggings for the purpose of this dress code.
4. Belts are required to be worn if pants do not stay above the waist.
5. Shorts are to be **LOOSE** fitting and are to be **no shorter than the tip of the longest finger** with the hand extended down. *No biker/skin tight shorts allowed.*
6. Shorts and capris may be worn through September 30<sup>th</sup> in the Fall, and after May 1<sup>st</sup> in the Spring.

### **Skirts and Dresses**

1. Skirts and dresses should be loose fitting.
2. Nothing shorter than 4" above the knee for skirts and dresses.

### **Tops, shirts and sweatshirts**

1. Designs on shirts/sweatshirts are allowed. Designs cannot include items that are vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others because of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender and sex. Designs must not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities.
2. Shoulders shall be covered. Halter tops, net tops, tops with spaghetti straps are not allowed. Sleeveless shirts with large arm openings are not permitted, though sleeveless apparel is acceptable.
3. **No skin** is to be showing between shirt and pants/skirt/shorts – attire that exposes cleavage may not be worn.
4. Hoodies can be worn, but hoods **must** be down.

### **Hair, Jewelry, Makeup and Perfumes**

1. Hair must be clean, brushed, **OUT OF THE EYES** and not interfere with classroom activities. If bangs are long enough to cover the eyes (*partially or fully*), they need to be clipped back (*headband, clips or tied*).
2. Facial hair must be clean and trimmed.
3. A reasonable amount of jewelry is acceptable. Jewelry that is excessive or distracting to the student's learning is prohibited.
4. Please be cognizant of offensive designs on jewelry.

5. Makeup applied that enhances the natural look is acceptable.
6. Moderation of perfumes and body sprays to avoid any allergy issues.

### Shoes

1. Dress/casual shoes, boots, sneakers and sandals may be worn.
2. Sandals **must** have a back strap.
3. **NO** flip flops.
4. Footwear that is a safety hazard is not allowed.

### P.E. Clothes

1. Loose fitting shirts, sweatpants and shorts may be worn.
2. Shorts are to be **LOOSE** fitting and are to be **no shorter than the tip of the longest finger** with the hand extended down. *No biker/skin tight shorts allowed.*
3. Gym clothes are to be brought with students on the day they have P.E.

### Elementary only (K4 – Grade 6):

Shorts (*any type*) or leggings **MUST** be worn under **ALL** dresses and skirts.

K4, K5, Gr. 1 & Gr. 2 must bring a COMPLETE extra set of clothing to leave at school.

**Field Trips:** School Shirt (*current or previous years*) plus pants/jeans and sneakers with socks are to be worn on all field trips unless an exception is made by the school administration or school Board of Education. If the field trip occurs before September 30<sup>th</sup> or after May 1<sup>st</sup>, shorts may be worn in place of pants/jeans. The student's clothes should be **CLEAN, NEAT, MODEST** and **FREE OF HOLES**. The student's hair should be clean, brushed and pulled back out of their face.

### School Functions:

Students are to **adhere to the school dress code** for **ALL** School Functions unless special permission is given by the school administration. This applies to **ANY** school related function that is either after school hours and/or is off the school premises.

**If you are unsure of an item of clothing, please contact the office.**

## **ENFORCEMENT OF THE DRESS CODE**

It is our desire that the dress code be a non-issue in the life of our students. Compliance is more a matter of the heart than the written standard. All VHCA staff will be examples in the way they dress and will be committed to enforcing the dress code. The following actions will take place when an infraction occurs:

- **First Infraction:** Teacher meets and counsels the student involved. Parental notice sent home by teacher for a dress code violation, with acknowledgement of receiving it (signed and returned the next day).
- **Second & further Infractions:** The student will remain in the main office until a parent/guardian or family member/friend can bring the appropriate clothing for the student to wear.

Along with the discipline outlined above, the following shall occur:

- Male students will be counseled by male staff, and female students will be counseled by female staff.
- The School Board has the final authority on any other matters relating to the dress code.

We are called by God to view all life through the lens of Scripture. Therefore, we urge all parents and students to become familiar with the following passages as they relate to the decisions we make regarding our dress:

1. Glorify God in whatever we do (1 Corinthians 6: 19-20)
2. We all should be pursuing righteousness (2 Timothy 2: 22)
3. Consider how we are to build up the weaker person in Christ (Romans 14: 12-22)
4. Sacrifice our lives (our wants and desires) for God's glory (Romans 12: 1-2)
5. Outward appearance is a reflection of what we value (1 Peter 3: 3-4)
6. Our dress should be modest (1 Timothy 2: 9)
7. Do not seek the desires of the flesh (Romans 13: 14).