

## Why Schools Have Dress Codes

As adults, it is our duty to teach students the importance of a respectable appearance which is a lesson that can positively impact their self-respect and self-esteem.

While the TVCS Dress Code allows for some self-expression through their wardrobe, there are reasons for the limitations. The expected benefits of our Dress Code include:

1. A dress code promotes a more serious school atmosphere which emphasizes academics and good behavior.
2. Dress codes can reduce social conflicts and peer pressure by reducing inadvertent social messages a non-conservative wardrobe might convey.
3. A dress code provides for some student choice and self-expression that a school uniform would not.
4. Consistently adhering to a school dress code will help students prepare for the importance of a respectable appearance in career and life situations.
5. There is evidence that dress codes increase student achievement by encouraging students to concentrate more on their studies.

## TVCS Dress Code

- Hems must reach the mid-thigh (halfway between the top of the knee and the top of the leg).
- Straps must be at least 2" wide; no backless or off the shoulder clothing.
- Students' clothing must cover their undergarments and undergarment straps.
- Shirts must not have openings that show sides, midriff, bare backs or excessive skin.
- All tops must cover the top of the pant, skirt, or short, with midriff covered at all times.
- Shirts with inappropriate symbols, graphics, words or offensive content are not allowed. Whether clothing is deemed offensive is at the sole discretion of TVCS.
- Students' clothing must be in proportion to their size. Excessively loose, sagging, or tight clothing is not allowed (for example, excessively wide pant legs).
- Closed-toe shoes must be worn for physical education (P.E.), unless a student has a specific medical condition that prevents their use. Tennis or other athletic shoes are preferred.
- Sandals must have a back strap (TK – grade 5). Middle school students may wear flip flops (except during PE).
- Shoe heels may be no more than 2" in height.
- Students may not wear excessive jewelry or make-up. Excessive is at the sole discretion of TVCS. No jewelry with spikes may be worn at school.
- Appropriate hats are welcome outside, but must be removed while indoors.