

Student Dress Policy- Patriot Oaks

The purpose of our dress code is to help all students be modest and appropriately dressed for school. These guidelines pertain to school and all school sponsored functions, unless otherwise stated.

At POA, there is a difference in dress code between elementary and middle school students because elementary students participate in daily PE and recess activities outside in their daily school clothes. Middle school students change clothes for PE and are otherwise, not outside in the heat during the school day. Due to this significant difference, shorts can be shorter than fingertip length for elementary students if they are appropriate and modest.

To help, please keep these specific guidelines in mind when purchasing clothes for the school year:

- **Shorts:**
 - must be fingertip length for all students. Shorts may not have any rips that expose skin. Shorts for PE must be the approved PE shorts purchased through POA Athletics.
- **Shirts:**
 - Straps must be at least two fingers wide. Off the shoulder shirts must have straps that meet this guideline. Bralettes do not count as straps for off the shoulder shirts.
 - No bare midriffs allowed. Shirts must be long enough to where, when a student raises their hand, no skin shows. Specifically, be careful with crop tops.
 - Tank tops for both boys and girls must be cut close to the underarm.
 - No undergarments can be showing at any time. Lace bralettes and sports bras are ok to be seen around the neck only if worn under a shirt that meets the dress code guidelines.
 - No backless shirts or dresses.
 - Low cut/revealing or see-through tops are not appropriate.
 - Clothing should not display any images or words that are offensive or suggestive in any way. No depictions of tobacco or alcohol on clothes are permitted.
- **Other:**
 - Shoes need to have backs for safety. (this applies only during school hours)
 - No pajamas are to be worn (unless for a special class celebration).
 - No hats can be worn unless for a class/school celebration. This includes beanies and hoodies.
 - Ripped/frayed jeans: no holes that show skin are allowed above fingertip length.

The school principal or designee will communicate in a discrete and positive matter with the student if there is a concern with a student's attire. Parents will be contacted as well. School personnel will offer replacement attire or alternate clothing can be brought in from home for the first infraction. Dress code infractions are recorded in the step behavior system for grades 6-8. The ultimate decision regarding dress code violations reside with the school administration.

****In the event of a dress code infraction where replacement clothes are handed out, we ask that they are laundered and returned quickly.**