**DRESS AND GROOMING 2019-2020**

**Dress Policy**

It is the obligation of the School Board to provide an educational atmosphere, which shall be conducive to the learning process. Students, teachers, and administrators have the right to be free from distracting influences, which hinder the learning process. No mode of attire will be considered proper for school wear that distracts from or disrupts classroom and school decorum. The principal of each school will make the final decision as to what is considered proper or improper dress according to the guidelines provided. It is the responsibility of each student to use good judgment in one’s total appearance so that the attention of others is not distracted from the purpose of the school. Cleanliness shall be a basic consideration.

Any substantial complaint concerning the dress code will be dealt with by the school administration. (Note: Jackets are not to be worn tied around the waist. Keys attached to a chain must not be worn around the neck or hanging out of pockets. Shirts are to be tucked in so belts are clearly visible.)

**PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO LABEL ALL CLOTHING SUCH AS COATS AND SWEATERS WITH PERMANENT MARKERS FOR IDENTIFICATION.**

**Uniforms**

Students in St. James Parish (Grades PK-12) will be required to wear uniforms to class. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for purchasing uniforms. Uniforms shall be worn as follows:

* PK-12 Boys Dress Code: School –approved color (PES has selected Navy Blue) or white shirt (oxford or knit with collar: no labels), school approved logo is optional, uniform khaki pants (can be pleated, not pleated or cuffed: no labels), or shorts (not more than 3” above the knee). **SJP Magnet boys have this option.**
* PK-12 Girls Dress Code: School-approved color (PES has selected Navy Blue) or white shirt (oxford, knit with collar, or broadcloth; no labels), school approved logo is optional, uniform khaki pants (can be pleated, not pleated or cuffed; no labels), skirts, skorts, jumpers or shorts (not more than 3” above the knee). **SJP Magnet girls have this option.**
* Sweaters/Vests/Sweatshirts: School-approved color (PES has selected Navy Blue) or solid white (school-approved means the principal has given his/her approval); only school approved monograms; no logos: no name brands; hoods are not allowed; collar of uniform shirt shall be visible. **SJP Magnet students can wear hunter green for the sweaters, vests, and sweatshirts.**
* Coats/Jackets/Wind Breakers: Solid navy blue, white, hunter green, black, gray, brown, or khaki; no stripes or designs; only school-approved monograms; no logos; no name brands; hoods are allowed on coats/jackets/wind breakers.
* **In addition, students also have the option of wearing the 2019-2020 school spirit shirt with a uniform bottom. The shirt can be worn on a daily basis.**
* **SJP Magnet students also have the option of wearing the 2019-2020 lime green magnet shirt with a uniform bottom.**

**Dress Code Regulations**

* All students will wear the designated school uniform clothing as outlined in the uniform policy. Transfer students will be given seven (7) days to acquire a proper uniform.
* The wearing of socks or tights for girls and socks for boys shall be mandatory and must be white, khaki, gray, black, or navy blue. Socks are to be visible and must not be lower than the ankle. Tights or leggings must have feet. No mid-calf tights or leggings.
* All students must wear belts (solid navy, solid gray, solid khaki, solid black, solid white, or solid brown) if pants have loops. Belts may not be more than one size larger than the waist. No belts are to be worn with beads, stones, sequins, words or designs.
* Baggy or over-sized uniforms are not acceptable and are prohibited. Pants must fit at the waist; “low riders” are not allowed. Drawstring pants, cargo pants, and sweat pants are also prohibited.
* Pants must be hemmed and side slits are not permitted. Pants cannot be made of denim material (jeans).
* Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Undergarments must not be visible. T-shirts are to be white without any print.
* Turtlenecks, if worn shall be white with no name brands, and no logos. White turtlenecks may be worn under uniform jumpers and may be worn under a uniform shirt, but cannot be worn alone.
* Slippers, thongs, sandals, flip-flops, Croc-type, and light-up shoes are not acceptable. Shoes must be completely enclosed. Shoes are to be laced and tied. Please consider purchasing Velcro shoes if your child is unable to tie his/her shoes.
* Should your child elect to wear a wristband to school, be advised that each student is allowed to wear only one wristband/bracelet, which is to be worn on the wrist. No child shall wear a hairband/rubber band as a wristband/bracelet. If a child chooses to use the wristband in an inappropriate manner, the child will be asked to remove the wristband and the child’s privilege to wear wristbands in the future will be revoked.
* The wearing of earrings by male students will be prohibited.
* The wearing of earrings by female students will be allowed, earrings should be no longer than 1” from piercing. The wearing of more than two pairs of earrings will not be allowed.
* Wearing body-piercing jewelry other than for pierced ears is prohibited.
* Students will be allowed to wear chains, pendants, belt buckles, or necklaces with the following specifications:
  + Rope-type chains shall be no larger that 1/6 inch in diameter.
  + Flat chains shall not exceed ½ inch in width.
  + Name plates, pendants etc. shall not be larger than 2 inches by 1 inch.
* Jewelry is worn at the student’s own risk. The system will not be responsible for lost/stolen items.
* Only prescription glasses may be worn inside buildings.
* Headgear, such as caps, hats, bandannas, etc., are prohibited (boys and girls).
* Clothing with holes is not allowed unless patches cover the holes.
* Clothing shall be worn on the “right” side and not the inside out.
* Fleece pull-over (sweaters, sweatshirts, jackets, etc.) with zippers are not allowed.
* Prohibited items may be confiscated by school officials and returned to the parent/guardian only.

**Dress Code Violations**

1. Three offenses-Administrative Conference
2. Six offenses-Administrative Conference
3. Nine offenses- one in-school suspension
4. Twelve offenses- two in-school suspensions
5. Fifteen/Eighteen offenses- three in-school suspensions

It is also the obligation of the school to enforce the attributes of cleanliness, personal hygiene and neatness. Therefore, all students must maintain a physical appearance, which is indicative of attention to personal hygiene and cleanliness. The school system cannot allow the failure of students to maintain basic standards of body cleanliness nor can it allow indecency in dress. Teachers/principal have an obligation to enforce the regulations governing these objectives.

Parents should “check” a student’s dress **before** they leave for school in the morning to ensure it complies with the parish code. “Dress Down” opportunities will be provided throughout the school year as noted on monthly calendar/special memo.