



## **POLICY 504 – STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to enhance the education of students by minimizing distraction and focusing students' attention on their work at Parnassus Preparatory School (the "School") rather than their attire, and to project a unified School image, which is proper and neat in appearance, reflecting the important work of the School. The dress code is a means to support and promote the educational goals, mission, culture and vision of the School.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The policy of the School is all Parnassus scholars are required to be in school uniform during school hours, on the school bus, and during all school activities and events unless otherwise specified.
- B. The School logo shall be visible at all times on students' uniforms. The outermost layer of a student's uniform should be embroidered with the School logo. This includes shirts, jumpers, blazers, and fleeces/sweaters.
- C. Acceptable School uniforms vary by school (Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric), and may vary from year to year. Details of the School's current uniform requirements are found on the School's website (<https://www.parnassusprep.com/>) under the heading "Uniform Guidelines."
- D. Attire is expected to be clean, in good condition, and properly sized to fit. A student's parent(s) or guardian(s) should account for their child's growth throughout the year when purchasing items such skirts and pants to ensure they remain at the appropriate length.
- E. School Administrators may approve modified uniform days or non-uniform days for events, field trips, and other uses at their discretion ("modified attire").
- F. Appropriate clothing (both uniforms and modified attire) includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  1. Clothing appropriate for the weather.
  2. Clothing that does not create a health or safety hazard.
  3. Clothing appropriate for the activity (i.e., physical education or the classroom).
  4. Footwear that does not present a safety hazard.
- G. Inappropriate clothing (both uniforms and modified attire) includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  1. Extremely brief garments and see-through garments, and other clothing that is not in keeping with School standards.
  2. Clothing or articles (including emblems, badges, symbols, signs, words, objects, or pictures on clothing or jewelry) bearing a message that is lewd, vulgar, obscene, libelous, denigrates, harasses, discriminates against others on the basis of a protected class under the Minnesota Human Rights Act, or violates other School policies prohibiting discrimination, violence, harassment, or other harmful activities.
  3. Apparel or articles promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors.
  4. Communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group, or approves, advances, or provokes any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and/or violence against other individuals as defined in School Policy 413.
  5. Attire which creates a material disruption or which infringes on the rights of others.
  6. Any apparel or footwear that would damage School property.

- H. Hats are not allowed in the School except with the approval of the Executive Director or their designee (i.e., student undergoing chemotherapy; medical situations; student religious practice or belief).
- I. The intention of this policy is not to abridge the rights of students to express political, religious, philosophical, or similar opinions by wearing modified apparel on which such messages are stated. Such messages are acceptable as long as they are not lewd, vulgar, obscene, libelous, do not denigrate, harass, or discriminate against others on the basis of a protected class under the Minnesota Human Rights Act; or do not violate School policies prohibiting discrimination, bullying, violence, harassment, or other harmful activities.

### **III. RESPONSIBILITY**

The implementation of the School dress code is a shared responsibility.

- A. Parent(s) and legal guardian(s) are expected to ensure their children are in compliance.
- B. Students are expected to comply with the dress code on a daily basis and encourage their classmates to do the same.
- C. Staff will enforce the dress code in a positive and reassuring manner with oversight from the school's administration.

### **IV. PROCEDURES**

- A. Enforcement of a student dress code will be approached with careful consideration and sensitivity, with the goals of supporting students, of not shaming students, and of minimizing loss of instructional time. When possible, dress code matters should be addressed privately with students, should seek to determine whether factors exist that impact the student's ability to comply with the dress code, and should seek to address such issues.
- B. When, in the judgment of the School administration, a student's appearance, grooming, or mode of dress interferes with or disrupts the educational process or School activities, or poses a threat to the health or safety of the student or others, the student will be directed to make modifications or when a student appears at school out of uniform, the student will be required to correct the violation. Parents may be contacted to bring alternative clothing immediately to school, or the student may be sent home for the day. Refusal to comply with this policy may result in a discipline referral
- C. The administration may recommend a form of dress considered appropriate for a specific event and communicate the recommendation to students and parents/guardians. The School must not prohibit an American Indian student from wearing American Indian regalia, Tribal regalia, or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.
- D. Likewise, an organized student group may recommend a form of dress for students considered appropriate for a specific event and make such recommendation to the administration for approval.

---

#### ***Legal References***

- 1. Minn. Stat. § 124D.792 (Graduation Ceremonies; Tribal Regalia and Objects of Cultural Significance)
- 2. Minn. Stat. § 363A.03, Subd. 36a (Definitions)

#### ***Cross References***

- 3. Policy 413 – Harassment and Violence
- 4. Policy 506 – Student Discipline
- 5. Policy 525 – Violence Prevention