

Dear Ashford Park School Families,

12/15/2009

Last year we polled our families on having School Uniforms. A majority voted in favor of uniforms. Our staff, School Council, and PTA Board are in favor as well. For these reasons, APS is implementing a uniform dress code beginning at the start of the 2010-2011 school year.

We wholeheartedly believe having a uniform dress code is in the best interests of our students:

- It supports our safety efforts, as students will be easily recognizable on campus and in the community (for example, when on field trips)
- Studies show that uniforms contribute to higher academic performance and less behavioral issues
- It reinforces good grooming habits for our students, helping them develop life skills
- We will be on par with most of the schools in our district
- Over the long term, a uniform dress code usually costs families less money

Our uniform dress code will be well-appointed while providing flexibility. Acceptable tops and bottoms are widely available at local stores including Wal-Mart, Target, and most department stores.

Tops – May be white, light blue, or navy blue. Shirts/blouses must have short or long sleeves (no sleeveless tops, tank tops, or spaghetti straps). Shirts/blouses may have a collar, or if they are made of heavy-weight cotton knit they may be collarless. In other words, a heavy cotton shirt or pullover sweater with no collar is acceptable, but a thin “undershirt” is not. White or light blue sweatshirts are acceptable in winter. Sweatshirts should fit and not come below the bottom. Tops should have no pattern or graphic design. Exceptions will be made for Spirit Wear (see below).

Bottoms – May be khaki or dark (navy) blue. Acceptable bottoms are:

- Boys: pants or full-length shorts that fit the body. (No baggy pants or shorts)
- Girls: pants, full-length shorts, capris or skorts. Girls may also wear skirts of appropriate length as long as they wear shorts, leggings or tights underneath.

Jeans will not be acceptable except on specially designated days, such as Spirit Wear days.

Shoes – May be any style in black, brown, navy blue, or tennis shoes as long as they cover the toes. No flip-flops, Crocs or sandals will be acceptable.

Socks/tights – May be black, white, tan, or blue.

Spirit Wear – May be worn on designated Spirit Wear days. Students wearing Spirit Wear (the green shirts/sweatshirts featuring our official school logo) may also wear jeans on these days. The Administration may designate other days for Spirit Wear for the entire school, a grade level, or a single class; for example, for school assemblies, field trips, and rewards for classroom achievements.

Implementation –Students who come to school out of uniform will be referred to the School Counselor, Principal or Vice Principal (as available), who will immediately communicate the requirements to parents/guardians. Those with a compelling reason to request to “opt out” may discuss this with the School Counselor, Principal or Vice Principal.

We believe this uniform program will outwardly convey the **dedication** of our students, **professionalism** of our academic pursuits, and **community spirit** that makes our school a wonderful place to be. I appreciate your support in advance.

Very truly yours,

Toni Fallon
Principal

APS SCHOOL UNIFORM PROGRAM FEEDBACK

Please fill out and return to the front office by **December 18, 2009**:

_____ I have questions or concerns and would like someone at the school to call or meet with me

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

BEST TIME TO TALK: _____