



The Vanguard School / High School (9-12) Dress Code for Gentlemen

Purpose of the Dress Code

The learning environment is significantly influenced by how students dress. The dress code impacts the school positivity by:

- Helping students focus on learning
 - Reducing distractions
 - Increasing wardrobe equality
 - Fostering a distinct and positive Vanguard appearance
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Standard of Appearance Guidelines for All Students

• **Personal items are prohibited if they:**

- Depict violence
- Advertise tobacco, alcohol, or illegal substances
- Display offensive slogans
- Make statements with sexual innuendos
- Discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.
- Interfere with or endanger oneself while participating in school or school-sponsored activities

• **Clothing:**

- Must be clean, pressed, and free of holes, tears, and frays.
 - Must not be worn if it causes or is likely to cause a disruption of the educational process
 - May not depict a style of grooming identified with membership in a gang
 - May not distract from the learning environment
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The final decision as to the safety of suitability of clothing, hair , jewelry, and other personal items, will be left up to the principal or designee.

Hair

- May not distract from the learning environment.
- Must be maintained in a clean, neat, and professional manner at all times.
- Must remain out of the face and away from the eyes.
- Men's hair that extends to the top of the shoulder or below must be pulled back.
- Only natural colors are allowed.
- No radical styles or colors that distract from the learning environment.
 - No undercuts
 - No mohawks or faux hawks
 - No design/pattern cuts, symbols, or shapes of any kind shaved on the head
- No angular fringe
- Guidelines for hair pulled into a bun:
 - No top of the head knots (low or high on the back of the head only)
 - No undercut or partially pulled back hair (full bun only)
 - Must be well groomed and tight to the head (not loose)

Facial Hair

- May not distract from the learning environment and must be well groomed.
 - No radical styles (e.g., braided and/or pony-tailed beards)
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Jewelry

- Jewelry must not distract from the learning environment.
 - An object that has a purpose other than jewelry cannot be worn as jewelry (e.g., chains or collars).
 - No more than three necklaces may be worn at one time.
 - No more than three bracelets may be worn on each wrist.
 - No more than three rings may be worn on each hand.
 - Earrings, ear cuffs, bars, gauges, or gauge-like earrings may not be worn.
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Tattoos and Body Piercing

- Tattoos must be covered at all times.
- No intentionally created marks should be visible on the skin.
- No pierced jewelry may be worn.
- No body art, including drawing or writing on skin made by the student with a writing utensil.

Pants

- Pants must fit the waistline and cuffs may not touch the ground.
- Students may not wear denim, of any color, during the school day.
- No leather of any type or color is allowed.
- Pants may not be excessively baggy or tight.
- Sweatpants, warm-ups, pajama pants, banded pants, and jersey (t-shirt fabric) pants are not allowed.
- Pants may be one solid color, striped, or plaid (i.e., no camouflage, no mixed striped/plaid or patchwork) without screen printing or faded areas.
- Pants must be in good repair.

Shorts

- No denim or leather of any type or color.
- Shorts must fit the waistline.
- Shorts must be at least fingertip length.
- Spandex or tight-fitting shorts are not allowed.
- No athletic shorts.
- Shorts may be one solid color, striped, or plaid (i.e., no camouflage) without screen printing or faded areas.

Shirts, Sweaters, Sweatshirts

- Shirts must have collars and be buttoned to the mid-sternum. No undershirt designs may be visible.
- All shirt collars are to be folded down.
- No shirts that are excessively tight or baggy, and no holes or tears.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Longer shirts must be tucked in.
- Patterned shirts are allowed; shirts with screen printing are not allowed.
- Any logos or sewn words must be on the front in the upper corner near the shoulder.

Outerwear

- Outerwear (i.e., coats, non-Vanguard hoodies, jackets, fleece, hats, scarves, or gloves) shall be removed after entering the building.
- Vanguard letterman jackets may be worn in the building as well as Vanguard spirit wear that has a collar and is quarter-zip (not to include windbreaker-type jackets).
- Fleece-collared outerwear that has a quarter-zip may also be worn in the building.
- Hoodies that are officially approved as Vanguard spirit wear may be worn (hood must be down at all times) in the building.

Undergarments

- No undergarments may show at any time, nor should they be worn as outer garments.

Headwear and Sunglasses

- May only be worn outside of the building.
- Headwear includes, but is not limited to, hats, scarves, visors, and bandanas.

Shoes

- Required at all times.
- Athletic sandals with a heel strap may be worn.
- No slippers, flip flops, slides, Croc styles, or Birkenstock styles.
- No writing on shoes.

Physical Education and Sports

- Separate attire should be used for P.E., including athletic shoes and socks. (*see P.E. syllabus*)
- Vanguard issued sports uniforms are approved for use during practice and games.

Vanguard Sportswear

- Vanguard sportswear (team windbreakers, sweatshirts, etc.) may be worn at specific times with prior approval from the principal.

Special Events

- For special events (musical performances, Graduation, Baccalaureate, etc.) the school may require more formal attire. Guidelines will be published for such events.

Students not adhering to the dress code may not be allowed to attend class until they are wearing proper attire. The final decision as to the safety or suitability of any dress code issue will be left up to the Executive Director or designee.