

### **5.3 UNIFORM DRESS CODE POLICY**

#### **Purpose**

##### **SECTION ONE**

A dress code is an important part of the distinctive learning environment families find at Vanguard Academy. When students follow a dress code, they are more accepting of each other and they focus more on their school work and less on their appearance. Uniform dress codes improve the classroom learning environment, build citizenship and a sense of community, and assist students, parents and families.

Because uniform dress codes are standard attire in many academically rigorous secondary schools, the uniform signals high academic expectations to the students. Uniform dress codes improve the classroom environment and potential for student learning by:

- Helping students concentrate on their school work by setting a tone for serious study
- Decreasing distractions created by shifting fashion and socioeconomic differences
- Building self-esteem, self-respect, and school spirit among students
- Maintaining a healthy and positive school image in the community through a clean and neat appearance
- Providing a visible and public symbol of commitment to high academic standards and student achievement
- Simplifying the daily morning school routine
- Providing a safer environment by assisting administrators, faculty, staff, parents and students in instantly recognizing intruders.

#### **Policy**

In order to ensure compliance with the Vanguard Academy Uniform Dress Code Policy, parents and students should carefully review all Uniform Dress Code guidelines contained within this policy. Vanguard will comply with all state regulatory requirements related to gender identity in the application of this policy.

##### **SECTION TWO: GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Students and parents at Vanguard Academy agree to adhere to the school's Uniform Dress Code Policy when they enroll at the school. In order to attain the desired benefits achieved through the wearing of a uniform dress code, consistent enforcement of the dress code is necessary. Enforcement of the Uniform Dress Code Policy is overseen by the Director and the school staff. A dress code infraction occurs when a student comes to school out of compliance with the Vanguard Academy Uniform Dress Code Policy. Examples of infractions include, but are not limited to: a student wearing an item that does not meet the prescribed code description (e.g. navy polo shirt, T-shirt, offensive pictures, words or logos, dirty, stained or foul-smelling clothing).

The school strives to achieve uniform dress code compliance through use of positive reinforcement, but when the uniform dress code infractions occur students are subject to established administrative rules. Administrative rules for the uniform dress code infractions shall define a system to track uniform dress code infractions, as well as reasonable and appropriate disciplinary consequences to deter frequent and excessive uniform dress code infractions. Additionally, the rules shall include a method to effectively communicate student dress code infractions to parents throughout the process, detail the specific steps that will be taken as the number of dress code infractions escalates, and provide opportunity for the Director or his/her designee to participate in parent meetings to educate students and parents regarding how to correct and avoid dress code infractions.

#### Enforcement Rules:

Violations of the uniform dress code such as missing a belt, socks, tie, or cardigan, etc., will result in parents being contacted and their account being charged to supply the missing item for the student that day. Blatant disregard for the uniform will result in a meeting with the director and a discipline committee to review the consequences which may include expulsion from Vanguard. Uniform must be worn. NO EXCEPTIONS.

### SECTION THREE: POLICY AND REGULATIONS

Statement of Uniform Dress Code Policy: A uniform-style dress code is mandatory at Vanguard Academy and must be adhered to during school hours.

The Director shall be allowed the discretion to occasionally and reasonably suspend specific dress code requirements (e.g. spirit days, field day, etc.)

All clothing and related dress code items that are not specifically covered in this policy but considered inappropriate or contrary to the stated purpose of the uniform dress code as outlined in the Vanguard Academy Uniform Dress Code Policy are subject to review and interpretation by school administration. It will be left to the discretion of the Director to determine whether or not an item in question is compliant with the school's uniform dress code policy and/or constitutes a distraction to the educational environment of the classroom and school.

Appearance: Students must present a clean, modest, and well-groomed appearance at all times. Shirts must be buttoned. Shoes must be fastened. All clothing must be worn right-side-out. All clothing must be appropriately sized and worn correctly. Pants and skirts must be worn at the waist; no "low-riding" clothing will be allowed. Pants may not be pegged or rolled up. Layering of same colored dress code shirts is allowed. Clothing shall not be excessively worn or faded. Any clothing that has holes/manufactured holes, decorative patches, tears, or rips is prohibited.

Logos: The Vanguard Academy logo may be worn (optional) on any approved dress code top. The Vanguard Academy logo should not be reproduced without the express consent of the Vanguard Academy Board of Directors.

Modification Process: The Director shall monitor uniform dress code implementation and recommend any needed policy or regulation changes to the Governing Board as perceived to be necessary based on developing circumstances. In considering any changes to the uniform dress code, the Director and Governing Board shall consider at least the following elements: quality, cost availability for purchase, and style.

Students should come to school appropriately dressed for the weather. All clothing and shoes must fit the student. All clothing must be clean, unstained, in good condition with no holes, or manufactured holes. Legs down to the middle of the knee must be covered. Students must bathe often enough to look and smell clean.

## DRESS CODE

### General Guidelines

- All clothing should be clean and in good repair (no holes).
- All clothing and shoes must fit the student.
- Non-uniform Jackets or coats are not to be worn in the classrooms.
- Plain white t-shirts with no markings may be worn under white uniform dress shirts.

### Girls Uniform

- Girls wear a white button up dress shirt, long or short sleeves.
- Girls wear black, gray, or khaki uniform/dress style pants.
- Skirts are to be at least to the middle of the knee, and can be black, gray, khaki, or plaid 114 (see uniform guide). Black or white shorts are to be worn under skirts. During the cold weather girls are advised to wear black opaque leggings or tights under skirts and shorts.
- Jr. High girls wear a cross tie. The tie can be gray or plaid 114.
- High school girls wear a long tie. The tie can be gray or plaid 114.
- Shoes are completely black dress shoes; heels cannot be more than 1-½", Closed toed shoes only.
- Boots are not allowed with the exception of when there is snow on the ground and must be removed and replaced with uniform shoes before going into the classroom.
- Socks may be black or white.

### Boys Uniform

- Boys wear a white button up dress shirt, long or short sleeves.
- Pants are to be black, gray, or khaki uniform/dress style pants.
- Belt is solid black without decoration.
- Jr High boys wear the blue tie.
- High School boys wear the purple tie.
- Shoes are all black
- Socks are all black

**Boys and Girls Sweater, Vest, Cardigan, Blazer Uniform**

- Boys and Girls wear over their white button up dress shirt one of the following that has the Vanguard logo on them:
  - Sweater must be sweater material and can be black or gray.
  - Blazer must be black

Sweaters, vests, and blazers may be removed outside of the school building before school, after school, and during lunch breaks during the hot months of August, September, and May. However, they must be worn inside of the school building during all months.

**Hair and Jewelry**

- Natural hair colors only. Unnatural colors (ie. Pink, green, blue, purple, unnatural red, or a mixture of the above is not permitted). Hair must be trimmed out of the eyes. No bizarre, extreme, or unusual hairstyles.
- Abnormally long false eyelashes more than 1/2" are not permitted. Notching of eyebrows is not permitted.
- Hair must be clean and brushed/combed (boys' hair must be cut above the collar and the ears).
- No jewelry. No earrings, gauges, plugs, tattoos, or drawing on the skin. No body piercings.

**Friday Dress**

- Shirts may be a gray, royal blue, or purple polo with the Vanguard logo.
- Pants are the normal school uniform pants, black, gray, or khaki uniform/dress style pants.

**SPIRIT DAYS, CONCERTS, FIELD TRIPS, FIELD DAY, AND OTHER VANGUARD ACTIVITIES**

- Uniform will be followed unless written guidelines are issued by Vanguard administration or their designee stating specific allowances.

**Revision History and Approval Date**

Original: Board Approved 08/15/2015

Updated: Board Approved 7/11/2023

Board Approved 5/14/2024



# VANGUARD ACADEMY UNIFORM GUIDE

## GIRLS UNIFORM

Girls wear a white button up dress shirt, long or short sleeve. Girls can wear black, gray or khaki school uniform/dress style pants or a black, grey, khaki or plaid 114 skirt (as shown below). Skirts are to be at least to the middle of the knee. Shorts worn under skirts. Jr. High girls wear a cross tie and High school girls wear a long tie in the colors gray or plaid 114. Dress shoes are completely black. Closed toe shoes only. Girls' shoe heels cannot be higher than 1-1/2". Boots are not allowed. Girl's socks may be black or white.



## **BOYS UNIFORM**

Boys wear a white button up dress shirt, long or short sleeve. Black, gray or khaki school uniform/dress style pants may be worn. Black only belt, without decoration worn with pants. Boys wear a tie every day. Junior High students wear the blue tie. High School students wear the purple tie. Boys' shoes are all black. Boys' socks are all black.



## **BOYS & GIRLS SWEATER, VEST, CARDIGAN, BLAZER UNIFORM**

Boys and Girls wear over their white button up dress shirt one of the following:

Sweaters are acrylic sweater material and can be in black or gray and have the Vanguard logo on them.  
Blazer is black with the Vanguard logo.



## **FRIDAY DRESS UNIFORM**

Students may wear on Fridays, school uniform pants and a vanguard solid color polo in gray, royal blue or purple with the Vanguard logo. Regular black dress shoes and socks are worn with Friday uniform.

