



<i>The Classical Academy</i>	<i>Policies and Procedures</i>
Policy Name:	TCA Dress Code - Secondary
Policy Number:	JICA-S-TCA
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Author:	Principals
Cabinet Level Owner:	Director of Academic Services

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Directors of The Classical Academy has established the overarching dress code policy guidance in JICA-TCA-B. The secondary dress code, Policy JICA-S-TCA, is an essential distinctive of the TCA academic culture.

The dress code impacts the school positively by:

- fostering a distinct and positive – TCA Appearance.
- decreasing distractions.
- increasing wardrobe equity.
- supporting easy identification of visitors or strangers.
- giving parents and students an opportunity to demonstrate mutual support of TCA’s core values and beliefs.
- teaching students the importance of self-discipline and personal responsibility.
- increasing group coherence and discouraging cliques or other forms of divisive or polarizing activities.

TCA students are required to follow the dress code guidance provided herein throughout the school day. The dress code is intended to promote safety, improve discipline, and enhance the overall learning environment. As we prepare students for future lives of service, scholarship, work and leadership, we must prepare them to recognize and submit to all sorts of external standards. Universities and future employers may control their living conditions, set standards for work performance, or restrict their communications. In almost all communities, our students will be subject to a broad array of legal, financial, social, and practical standards. We use the school dress code as a concrete opportunity for our students to learn respectful compliance – and, when necessary, to accept natural consequences for poor decisions, helping our students learn how to live within the social world of rules and imposed standards. Properly adhering to the dress code also shows self-discipline, pride in oneself and in TCA.

Students *may* be out of dress code before school starts if they are outside the buildings; however, students are required to be in dress code when they enter any building in the morning or when returning from outside. After 3:00 pm, students on campus may be out of dress code but must still be modestly and appropriately dressed. The dress code must be followed during detention and on field trips unless the administration approves otherwise. The dress code is not required

for any evening or weekend activities unless specified by the administration or the activity supervisor.

PARENT, STUDENT, AND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their students arrive at school in proper dress. Within the school, classroom teachers and other staff members will enforce compliance with the dress code. TCA administrators will make final decisions regarding dress code issues. We expect cheerful, consistent compliance with the dress code policy from all students, parents, and staff. Students need to take ownership of the dress code policy and, at the beginning of each day, be able to affirm, if asked, that they are in compliance with the policy and its intent. Because TCA's dress code policy is designed to promote our focus on academics and group solidarity, we trust teachers to make observations and judgment calls about whether a specific student is compliant with the letter *and* the spirit of this policy. If a student disagrees with a teacher's conclusions related to their policy compliance, that student should immediately and respectfully defer to the teacher by complying with the teacher's conclusion and then address the issue with the teacher respectfully after class.

CONSEQUENCES FOR DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Dress code violations will be documented by the person making the decision. A student's first violation will result in a verbal warning and the warning will be documented. Any violations subsequent to the first warning may result in the student being assigned a detention for dress code violations. If a student repeatedly violates the policy guidance, further disciplinary actions including suspensions may be invoked. If a student violates the dress code policy in a manner that cannot be immediately corrected, the staff member may require the student to call her/his parent or guardian and arrange for them to bring the clothing item(s) required to bring the student into compliance with the dress code. A staff member may require a student to remain in the school office until appropriate attire arrives.

GENERAL DRESS CODE GUIDANCE

- Students must present a neat appearance.
- Items of dress are to be of an appropriate size/fit, must be modest, and worn as intended by the policy.
- A student can be out of compliance for wearing non-approved items or by wearing approved items in a manner that is sloppy, immodest or otherwise inappropriate.
- Appearance that is so conspicuous, extreme, distracting, immodest, profane, disrespectful, or different in color or style that it would draw undue attention from an outside visitor shall not be allowed.
- TCA wear can only be purchased through the TCA on-line store via the link on the TCA website homepage: [click here](#).

PANTS / SHORTS / SKIRTS

- Pants/shorts/skirts must not have any visible logos, be form fitting or contoured to one's body shape, or be overly loose, have cargo pockets, or any holes.
- Pants/shorts/skirts must be of traditional solid conservative color (navy, khaki, brown, black, or grey).

- Students may not wear denim, with the exception of black jeans allowed on Fridays.
 - Included in the denim category are pants with external rivets intended to look like denim pants.
- The length of boys or girls shorts will not be shorter than 4 inches above the top of the knee.
- The length of girl's skirts/dresses will not be shorter than the top of the knee.
 - Solid neutral color leggings may be worn under appropriate length/approved skirts.
- No pants, shorts, or skirts may be made of fabric that stretches. Specific examples of prohibited fabrics include stretch denim, any stretchy jersey, knit, synthetic, or composite fabric that is designed to stretch and fit to the body shape of the wearer. Specific garments prohibited under this clarification include any “workout” or “yoga” stretch pants, “jeggings”, shorts, or leggings and any skirt or skort with fabric that stretches or clings to the wearer.

SHIRTS

- Shirts must only be polo or oxford dress style (solid color button down collared shirt) for both boys and girls.
- Shirts must not have visible logos, be form fitting or contoured to one’s body shape, overly loose, or have holes.
- Shirts must be a solid color that is not excessively bright, distracting, or likely to draw undue attention.
 - During the school day, shirts must be tucked in to the pants or skirts and reflect an acceptable standard of neatness and modesty. In lieu of tucking, girls may layer their shirts (when layering the layered items must be visible and extend beyond the outer shirt).
 - Long sleeve thermal-type or t-shirts are not to be worn underneath short-sleeved polos or oxfords.
 - Sleeveless shirts and sheer material (any material that you can see through) are not acceptable.
 - TCA-approved logo t-shirts are only allowed on Fridays, as described in the Friday Wear section below.

SWEATERS / SWEATSHIRTS / JACKETS

These garments are designed to be worn over a shirt as a base layer and may be pullover, button, or zipper style.

- Sweaters:
 - Must not have visible logos, be form fitting or contoured to one’s body shape, overly loose, or have holes.
 - Must be a solid color that is not excessively bright, distracting, or likely to draw undue attention.
 - All sweaters either round neck or v-neck must have a shirt collar visible underneath.
 - Thermal type material shirts are not considered sweaters or sweatshirts and do not meet the intent of this dress code section.
- Sweatshirts, Hoodies, and Jackets:
 - Students may wear TCA-approved logo sweatshirts (hooded or not) and jackets with TCA-approved logos (including athletic team and co-curricular groups) within the school building.
 - Shirts, if worn under sweatshirts, must be tucked in.

- Teachers may request a student remove TCA-approved logo jackets within the classroom.

NECKTIES/SCARVES/BELTS

- Students may wear neckties with oxford dress shirts.
 - If worn, neckties must be of standard length and properly tied.
 - Ties must be of coordinating colors and in good taste.
- Girls may wear scarves that are of coordinating colors and in good taste.
- Students must wear belts, which may not have spikes or metal protrusions, and must be of coordinating colors and in good taste.
 - Buckles must be plain and not overly large.

FOOTWEAR

- Students must wear footwear at all times.
- All footwear must be neat, clean, and appropriate for an educational environment.
- Footwear colors must not be overly bright or distracting.
 - For safety reasons, footwear cannot have spiked heels or heels greater than 2 inches in height.
- Socks, if worn, must be primarily of one color, without pattern.
- Tights/leggings for girls must be a solid neutral color without pattern.
- Shower/beach/athletic sandals/FiveFinger or barefoot shoes and/or flip-flops are not allowed.
 - A good guideline for sandals is that it is not allowed if it has a rubber sole. In the interest of simplicity and ease of identification, most sandal styles are allowed, but rubber/plastic flip flops or other rubber/plastic athletic slip-ons or beach/river wear are prohibited.

FRIDAY WEAR

- On Fridays students are allowed to wear **BLACK denim (not blue)** shorts, skirts, or pants.
- TCA approved logo shirts or t-shirts from athletic teams or co-curricular groups that have been approved by school administration are also allowed for Friday wear. The apparel must also comply with general guidelines for modesty and neatness.

HAIR AND ACCESSORIES

- All students shall maintain their hair, mustaches, sideburns, and beards in a clean, well-groomed manner.
- Hairstyles must be a single natural color (natural colored highlights are acceptable), and cannot be so conspicuous, extreme, or non-standard in color or style (e.g. mohawks, faux-hawks, striped, shaved designs, etc.) that they would draw undue attention from an outside visitor (for boys this includes buns, ponytails or headbands).
- If bangs are worn, they must be above the eyes in front.
- Boys must maintain the length of their hair as follows:
 - Hair will be no longer than the bottom of the ears on the sides.
 - Hair in back will be no longer than the bottom of the collar (barely touching the shoulders).
- No hats or baseball caps may be worn during the school day.

JEWELRY/PIERCING/TATTOOS

- All jewelry must be conservative, non-offensive, and not draw undue attention from an outside visitor.
- Girls are allowed two earrings and one cartilage ring/stud in each ear.
 - No other visible piercing is allowed for girls.
- No visible piercings are allowed for boys.
- Visible tattoos are prohibited for all students in all school settings, including classroom, practice, competition, and performance settings.

PE CLASSES

- Students may wear the following:
 - TCA (PE, Sport, or Activity) t-shirt (crew neck with sleeves)
 - School color (blue, red, gray/silver, or black) shorts or sweatpants; if cold, TCA hoodie or sweatshirt (school shorts need to be longer style - no shorter than 4” above the top of the knee)
 - Non-marking athletic shoes with tied laces; athletic socks
- Purchase through TCA online store (www.tcatitans.org), or a sports/activities coach or club sponsor

SPECIAL DRESS DAYS

On special occasions, student dress will be allowed to deviate from the above standards during designated dress days – see below. On these days student dress must stay within the previous guidelines for modesty, fit, neatness, non-distracting, and non-offensive dress.

CASUAL DAYS

On designated casual days (typically during Spirit Week or Cash 4 Casual), students may wear any themed garments or specifically designated wear (i.e., blue denim) that are modest, non-offensive, without holes, and are appropriate for our school environment. Hats may be allowed at the discretion of individual classroom teachers.

DRESS-UP DAYS

Note: previous guidance regarding modesty and fit apply for dress-up days also.

On designated dress up days (typically involving sports or activities contests/performances), students may dress up (not down) from typical dress code standards. Note: Denim is never considered dressing up.

- Boys - Dressing up would include the following: dress slacks, dress shirts, ties, sweaters, sports coats, suits, belts, dark socks, dress shoes.
- Girls - Dressing up would include the following: modest dress slacks, skirts, blouses, dresses, suits, sweaters, belts, and dress shoes/sandals. Spaghetti straps, strapless, or sleeveless dresses are not allowed for girls.

SENIORS

Seniors may continue to design and wear a Seniors-only sweatshirt. Seniors are authorized to use colors other than the standard colors based on their agreement with the high school principal. Seniors may negotiate a “senior contract” with the high school principal each year that may allow for some variation from requirements contained herein. Certain items are non-negotiable.

TWO-HOUR DELAYS

Periodically throughout the winter, school will be delayed two hours due to inclement weather. Since it’s likely that some students may be required to shovel snow, scrape ice, push cars, etc., students may wear blue or black jeans with a TCA approved logo shirt/sweatshirt.

COLLEGE PATHWAYS

Due to classes on the Pikes Peak Community College campus, College Pathways has slight modifications to this policy. See the College Pathways Parent Student Handbook for complete details: [click here](#).

Cross Reference:

JICA-TCA-B Board Policy Regarding Student Dress Code

Policy Revision History

Date	Revision Details	Revised By
8/1/2009	Updated for clarification	Principals
8/1/2010	Updated for clarification	Principals
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8/1/2014	Updated for clarification	Principals
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