

UPPER SCHOOL DRESS CODE FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS 2023-24

Orchestra Concerts

Orchestra performances happen on stage under bright lights. The audience should not be distracted by anything a student is wearing.

Gentlemen:

- White long-sleeved dress shirt
- Long black tie
- Black dress pants (no jeans)
- Black belt, black dress socks
- Black dress shoes (no sneakers)

Ladies:

- White long-sleeved or $\frac{3}{4}$ -sleeved blouse (does not need collar; no sparkles; may not be see-through; may not be low-cut; sweaters not recommended)
- Black floor-length skirt or black dress pants with black belt (no jeans or skinny pants)
- Black stockings
- Black dress shoes (closed toe)
- No necklace; no dangle earrings or accessories that jingle or sparkle

Outdoor Field Day

Field day is a run-around, athletic day. Students should dress appropriately and modestly:

- Dress appropriately for the weather. In Colorado, this means you should bring layers. The mornings are chilly—bring sweatpants or sweatshirt.
- Bottoms: may wear sweats, jeans or shorts. Clothes may not be form fitting; no leggings. Bottoms may not have a logo or lettering across the seat of the pants. Shorts may not be short-shorts. Pants may not be baggy.
- Tops: Students may wear T-shirts. No logo or wording may be offensive. No tank tops, no sleeveless tops, no halter tops. Tops must not be tight. Tops may not show cleavage.
- No undergarments of any kind may be visible.
- Clothes may not have holes. Clothes may not reveal the midriff.
- Athletic socks and shoes should be worn.
- Hair, jewelry, and accessories must be in line with regular uniform policy with the exception that **students may bring hats and sunglasses.**

Indoor Field Day

Students should dress appropriately:

- Bottoms: may wear jeans or other casual pants. Clothes may not be form fitting; no leggings. Bottoms may not have a logo or lettering across the seat of the pants. Shorts may not be short-shorts. Pants may not be too baggy.
- Tops: Students may wear T-shirts. No logo or wording may be offensive. No tank tops, no sleeveless tops, no halter tops. Tops must not be tight. Tops may not show cleavage.
- No undergarments of any kind may be visible.
- Clothes may not have holes. Clothes may not reveal the midriff.
- Athletic socks and shoes may be worn.

- Hair, jewelry, and accessories must be in line with regular uniform policy. No hats are allowed

Spirit Days

Several times a semester, the school will celebrate a Spirit Day. On this day the polo and sweater or fleece may be substituted with approved MacLaren spirit wear. Anything purchased from our vendor is approved to wear on this day. No shirts received as part of an athletic team may be worn. Spirit shirts from 2009-2018 with the griffin logo are grandfathered in (former club shirts are not). Grey Highlander sweatshirts are approved.

Honors Assemblies

For the days set aside to honor a particular class or for Athletic Awards events, students from this class may wear uniforms or an appropriate, dressy outfit. Jewelry, hair, and make-up should be appropriate according to the MacLaren dress code.

Gentlemen:

- Shirt: Boys must wear a collared long-sleeved dress shirt and a tie. No t-shirts, no shirts with logos. Shirts should be tucked in.
- Pants: Boys must wear dress pants or khakis. No shorts, no corduroy, jeans or jean-like material. Belts are required.
- Shoes: Boys must wear uniform shoes or equivalent. No athletic shoes or sandals.
- Socks: Socks may not be ankle socks.
- Jackets are optional.

Ladies:

- Girls may wear skirts, dresses, or dressy pants. Girls' dress should be modest.
- Skirts and Dresses: Skirts and dresses must be no shorter than one inch above the knee. Skirts and dresses should not be tight. Dresses should not be low-cut; no cleavage may be visible.
- Pants: If girls choose to wear pants, they must be dress pants or khakis. No shorts, no corduroy, jeans or jean-like material.
- Shirts: Girls' shirts should be modest, meaning no low-cut necks, and not overly tight. No t-shirts and no logos. No undergarments may be visible.
- Shoes: No athletic shoes. No heels over two inches tall. No flip-flops.
- Jewelry: Jewelry should conform to usual school dress code.

Spring Formal

The purpose of the Thomas MacLaren Formal Dance Attire Policy is to ensure our students maintain modesty at all times on campus and at school-sponsored events. Students are strongly encouraged to be responsible with the Dress Code and Formal Dance Attire Policy by selecting attire that is modest and displays proper respect for self and others.

Ladies: Ladies may wear dresses or dress suits according to the guidelines below

- Dresses must have straps.
- Cleavage may not show at any time. Low cut dresses or tops are not allowed. To check for modesty, use the Palm Pilot Test (see below). No skin may show from beneath the

pinky finger to the bottom of the dress for the duration of the dance and while on the property of the dance site.

Palm Pilot Test – Place your palm flat with all your fingers and thumb tightly together. With your thumb hooked onto the shelf (clavicle) at the base of your neck, hold your hand horizontally flat against your chest. There should be no skin showing beneath your pinky finger, only opaque fabric.

- The back of dresses or blouses may not be lower than the bottom of the shoulder blades.
- The highest part of the opaque hemline of a dress or skirt, including any slits, must be no higher than the top of the kneecap. Opaque is defined as not transparent or translucent; not allowing light to pass through.
- See through and/or excessively tight-fitting slacks, dresses or skirts are not allowed.
- Fishnet stockings and extreme hosiery styles may not be worn.
- Dress shoes should be worn; open-toed shoes are acceptable. No heels over three inches tall. No flip-flops.

Gentlemen:

- Tuxedos may be worn but are not required; jackets are required.
- Collared, long sleeved dress shirts must be worn. Shirts must be tucked in and buttoned for the duration of the dance and while on the property of the dance site. The top button may be unbuttoned and sleeves may be rolled up, if desired.
- A tie must be worn, properly knotted, for the duration of the dance and while on the property of the dance site. Ties may be loosened to the second shirt button from the top, but may not be taken off.
- Dress pants must be worn. Casual pants with pockets attached to the outside of the pants are not permitted.
- If the dress pants have belt loops, a dress belt or suspenders must be worn.
- Dress shoes and dress socks only.
- See through and/or excessively tight-fitting clothing are not allowed.

Everybody:

- Hair: hair must conform to normal uniform dress code
- Make-up must look natural; no extreme make-up can be worn. Black fingernail polish is not allowed; no make-up is allowed for boys.
- Jewelry
 - Modest jewelry for females is allowed. An object that has a purpose other than jewelry cannot be worn as jewelry (i.e. animal chains or collars, gauges, safety pins or tacks, etc.).
 - Male students must follow the usual guidelines for jewelry.
 - Female students may only have jewelry for piercings in the ears according to the below rules.
 - Female students may not have more than one earring hole filled per ear.
 - Earrings may not be excessively large (more than 3" diameter hoops).
- Spikes are not allowed on shoes or other clothing.
- Visible body piercings and/or tattoos must be covered at all times.

If students have any question or doubt whether an item of clothing, jewelry, hair style, make-up, etc. is acceptable, they must show it or provide a clear photograph of it to the appropriate Dean or their designee for approval at least two weeks prior to the dance. Selected female faculty/staff members, led by the Deans, will be on site during the dance to ensure only those students who are following this policy are permitted into the dance.

If you are uncertain about this policy or whether your attire conforms to it, you are highly encouraged to speak with the Deans at least two weeks prior to the dance. Violations of the Formal Dance Attire Policy any time during the dance and while on the property of the dance site may result in the student being denied entry to the dance or removed from the dance with no refunds given in either case.

IMPORTANT: Tags and receipts should be kept in case the attire is not approved. Parents and students should familiarize themselves with the store's return/exchange policy prior to making a purchase. Many stores will not allow for returns, so make sure the attire you wish to obtain conforms to this policy prior to making any purchases. Thomas MacLaren School and its representatives are not financially responsible for any issues related to the non-approval of dresses, clothing, jewelry, hair styles, etc.

Thomas MacLaren School and its representatives reserve the right to deny entrance to the dance due to violations of the dress code which cannot be resolved. The final decision as to the safety and/or suitability of clothing, hair styles, jewelry, etc. will be left up to the discretion of the Head of School and/or the Deans.

Dress at "Home" Events

One aspect of maintaining our culture is respecting the approach to dress at home events such as home athletic events, drama performances, or high school socials. Dress may be casual, but should follow the general outlines found in the section above, Indoor Field Day. That is, clothes should not be tight or revealing, jewelry should follow dress code, and there should not be any verbiage on clothing that is offensive.