



The  
Frederick  
Gunn  
School

## **2022 COMMENCEMENT DRESS**

Below are the dress code guidelines for all graduating students and you will need to pick one of these two options for Commencement.

### **OPTION 1:**

White dress in a style and length appropriate for a morning graduation ceremony and appropriate footwear for processing in the ceremony. You can view the specific details below.

### **OPTION 2:**

Navy blue blazer, pressed khaki dress slacks, white dress shirt, alumni tie (provided by the school), shoes that can be polished and dark socks.

If any of the requirements creates a conflict for religious or cultural reasons, please just let us know and will make it work.

### **OPTION #1 SPECIFICS**

A white dress (fully lined or worn with a slip) in a style appropriate for a morning graduation ceremony with appropriate footwear for processing (white or light metallic colored flats, dress sandals, or wedges). Dresses must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knees and should be modest (not low-cut, low-back or tightly fitted). Students should be able to sit comfortably in their dresses. Commencement dresses will be approved in person by the Dean of Students Office. We are happy to review photos before any purchases are made.

## **What does this really mean?**

**Dress:** Your dress must be white (not off-white or cream), and it may not have any embellishment (trim, lace, belt, buttons, decorations, etc.) that is not white. It needs to be fully lined (so that it's not translucent in the sun), or you'll need a full slip. Remember that this is your graduation ceremony (not prom or a semi-formal) so your dress should be modest in cut and style. No backless, low back, or low-cut dresses or dresses with revealing slits. No dresses are allowed that are too tight or too short (the no more than 2" above your knees rule applies); you need to be able to sit down comfortably for your class portrait and during the ceremony under the tent. Your dress will wrinkle if it's too fitted, and you'll have to tug at it if it's too short (not a good look for getting a hard-earned diploma and having lots of pictures taken). Finally, we suggest that you choose a dress fabric that is lightweight and breathable. It is often a hot day, and you will suffer unnecessarily in a dress that is heavy or made of really thick fabric.

**Shoes:** White or light metallic colored flats, dress sandals, or wedges (otherwise you will sink into the lawn or risk tripping) are all acceptable choices. Specifically, you should consider ballet flats or Jack Rogers-type sandals (not flip-flops or rubber-soled shoes) or wedges that have a white or light-colored sole and heel. Look for comfortable shoes, as you will be on your feet on a hot day for several hours (you don't want blisters ruining your graduation!).

**Accessories:** Graduation is a formal event, so make sure that your accessories match the occasion (today may be a day to leave bright and/or plastic bracelets or watches at home). You may wear flowers in your hair or a flower wreath (just keep the colors light and remember that you'll already be carrying a red rose). Any other hair accessories should be white.

**Approval:** The Dean's Office will review your outfits in early May but are available to do so much earlier. You will need to wear your entire outfit (dress, shoes, the undergarments you plan to wear with your dress, accessories or send a picture). If

you follow the guidelines, there should be no surprises and your outfit will be approved.

If you're not sure about whether or not a dress or shoes meet the guidelines, feel free to show us at any time. You can also email us a picture or link before you buy.

*Please keep your receipts, as your outfit may not be approved if it doesn't meet the guidelines. Thank you for understanding and following the above guidelines.*