



# Redwood Christian Middle School & High School Dress Code

**Introduction:** We hope the following guidelines will help you understand and commit to the overall attitude we desire of our students, which is to cheerfully comply with the Redwood Christian dress standard! The purpose of the dress standard at RCMSHS is four-fold: a) to promote neatness and modesty; b) to encourage the attitude that school is a place of instruction rather than play; c) to enhance safety during the school day; and d) to promote school spirit and enthusiasm. By maintaining a standard of dress, we hope to encourage our students to learn how to make appropriate dress choices as Ambassadors for Christ, representing Him in all we do.

- **All dress code standards will be in effect while students are on campus, on field trips, or at any other school-related functions.**
- ***The administration reserves the right to make the final decision in regard to any questionable student dress or appearance.***

**A Note to Parents and Students:** In keeping with the agreement between RCS and the family during the application process, RCS expects that:

- Parents teach their children the importance of dressing modestly and professionally;
- Parents will monitor compliance before their children leave home;
- Parents and students will work to prevent the dress code from becoming a major issue;
- Students will happily comply with the dress code.

We, as adults, know that criticism creates a spirit of unrest in children. We acknowledge that much of the dress code is institutional preference; therefore, the Redwood Christian School Board has set the dress standard that all who attend RCS have agreed to follow.

### **Please ask these questions when selecting clothing and hairstyles:**

- Is it immodest (I John 2:15-17)?
- Might my appearance be disruptive to learning by calling attention to itself?
- Does my appearance identify with a negative counter-cultural group or a rebellious element of society?
- Does the clothing present a health or safety hazard?
- Is the clothing faded from washing, worn, or improperly fitted?
- Is the clothing designed for a purpose other than school wear?

If the answer is "yes" to any of the above, then the attire or appearance is not acceptable for school.

### **General Clothing Information**

- All clothing must be modest, neat and clean in appearance without frays, holes, or rips, and free from slogans, pictures, logos, etc. which are inconsistent with RCS philosophy.
- The following are not permitted:
  - Clothing that mimics negative counter-cultural fads, gang attire, bandanas, long belts and oversized apparel.
  - Camouflage of any color.
  - Overalls, sweat pants, oversized, sagging, or tight pants.
  - Tank tops or sleeveless style shirts.
  - Leggings and thermal underwear worn as outer garments.
  - Beach wear.
  - Tattoos or chains.
  - New Age, occult, spiked, or stud-style jewelry.
- Piercings are not to be worn by boys at any RCS functions.
- Girls may only wear piercings in the ear at RCS functions.
- All baseball style caps, beanies, and other hats, including sweatshirt hoods are to be removed when inside a building.

### **Shirts and Tops**

- All students must wear a shirt (for purposes of this pamphlet, "shirt" also means a "blouse") that has a fold-over collar or wear an administration approved RCS spirit t-shirt (JOG, class, club, athletic, etc.) or wear an administration approved pull-over hoodie sweatshirt.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Shirts may not be tight-fitting.
- Shirts may not be pulled to the back and secured with elastic bands or clips.
- A school-acceptable shirt must be worn under all sweaters and sweatshirts.
- All shirts with fold-over collars must be buttoned up to the second button. Only the very top button may be undone.
- Girls may not show cleavage.
- All shirts must be long enough to be tucked in even when arms are raised.
- Boys shirts with tails must be tucked in.
- Shirts longer than your finger-tips when your arms are extended must be tucked in.
- Boys t-shirts worn as undergarments may not fall lower than their shirt.

## Pants and Shorts

- Students may wear pants, jeans or walking/Bermuda shorts with pockets and belt loops (not running or athletic shorts) year-round.
- Pants, jeans and shorts are to be neat and clean, without holes, and may not be frayed in any way.
- The waistline of the pants or shorts must be around the students' waist, not the hips.
- Boys must wear a belt at all times.
- Pants, jeans or shorts may not be so tight (immodest) that attention is drawn to the curvature of the body from the waist to the ankle.

## Dresses and Skirts (Girls only)

- Hems must be 4" from the floor when kneeling.
- Slits must also be no more than 4" from the floor when kneeling.
- Split skirts may be worn provided they meet the length requirement and are full enough to look like a skirt.
- Proper undergarments should be worn at all times.

## Hair

- Hair must be trim and neat in appearance, balanced and uniform in cut.
- Hairstyles that mimic negative counter-cultural, rock, or punk styles may not be worn.
- Coloring hair in an unnatural shade or color is not permitted.
- The natural length of boys' hair may not be lower than: 1) the top of the collar, 2) the eye brow, 3) the bottom of the ear.
- Sideburns may not be lower than the bottom of the ear.
- 6th through 11th grade boys are to be clean shaven.
- 12th grade boys are allowed to have facial hair following the senior picture being taken and up to but not including High School Graduation.
- Boys may not wear hair accessories.
- Facial hair on 12th grade boys must be neat and trim in appearance, balanced and uniform in length.

## Shoes

- Students are to wear shoes at all times.
- Shoes, like all other clothing must be neat & clean in appearance.
- Open-toed shoes must have a strap around the heel.
- No beach wear is allowed, including flip-flops.
- Dress sandals must have a strap that goes around the heel.

## Athletic Game Day Dress

- Boys must wear dress slacks, dress shoes and dress socks, dress belt and a dress shirt with an appropriate tie. Sweaters or dress coats are encouraged, but not required.
- Girls must wear nice dresses, skirts or dress slacks with blouses. Dresses and skirts are encouraged if weather permits. Denim or corduroy are not considered game day dress. Dress shoes are required (flip-flops or casual, slipper type shoes are not allowed).

## Formal

- The dress code for formal events is designed to promote modesty.
- Specific guidelines concerning formal gowns are handed out in advance and require both student and parent signatures.
- **Ladies:** Dresses must be modest, i.e. **four inches** from the floor when kneeling (knee length when standing), not backless, and not showing cleavage. Slits are permitted provided they meet the length requirement. Sleeveless dresses are acceptable provided that undergarments are not visible. A strapless dress can be worn with a jacket, not a wrap, over it during the banquet.
- **Men:** Dress shoes, dress pants, dress belt, dress shirt, dress tie, and a dress coat.

## Graduation

- Boys must wear dress slacks, dress shoes and socks, dress belt and a dress shirt with an appropriate tie. Senior boys must be clean shaven for the graduation.
- Girls must wear a nice dress or a skirt with a blouse. Dress shoes are required (flip-flops or casual, slipper type shoes are not allowed).
- HS students may only wear the CSF stole. No other stoles are allowed.
- HS graduates may wear only one lei.
- MS students may not wear a stole nor have a lei.

## Enforcement

- A student who is in violation of the dress code will be notified by the appropriate Dean that he or she has been issued a demerit. If a student feels that his or her clothing is not in violation of the dress code, then he or she may speak to the Dean the day the citation is given.
- The first dress citation will result in a warning. All others will result in demerits.
- The Dean will require a change of clothes if the attire is not appropriate.
- Contact Mr. Warner, the MSHS Principal, with any questions at 510-317-8990.