

Dress and Grooming Policy [Modesty, Respect, and Safety (MRS)]

The School's Dress and Grooming Policy is designed to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, minimize safety hazards, and provide a dress standard that offers flexibility for the parent and student. The operating words for these expectations for Village Tech Dress and Grooming Policy is modesty, respect, and safety. "Putting First Things First", included in Covey's training of the "Leader in Me," places the responsibility of taking care of oneself and having a healthy attitude toward people on the student. Communicating through dress and grooming is one way this is accomplished.

This attitude includes the behaviors of coming to school cleanly and neatly groomed and wearing clothing that will not be a health or safety hazard to the student or others and will not distract from the educational atmosphere of the School. **Modesty** means that the attire and grooming reflect the cultural norms of Village Tech and the norms of this diverse community such as style and appropriateness. **Respect** means that the attire and grooming do not contain vulgarity, obscenities, or unreasonable graphics and does not distract the learning environment. **Safety** in dress and grooming keeps the body from harm and/or does not promote weapons, gangs, or gang related behaviors.

The Campus Director has the final and sole discretion to determine if expectations are met with the Dress and Grooming Policy. If in violation of not being modest, respectful, or safe, the student may remain in class for that day with the expectation of not repeating the offense or, with a more severe violation, remain in the office until a change of clothes can be brought to the school (unexcused absence from class). Additional discipline consequences may be assessed as allowed by the Student Code of Conduct. The modesty, respect, and safety aspect of the Dress and Grooming Policy will cover the following (although not an exhaustive list):

- Shirts: The shirts must cover the midsection of the body and may be tucked in if desired. No tank tops under 3 finger shoulder widths or sleep wear.
- Spirit Shirts: Same as Shirts plus words or graphics must reiterate/ reinforce the School's culture.
- Pants/slacks/jeans/capris/shorts/skirts/dresses: Must look presentable and appropriate for the school working environment. The clothing will reasonably cover the natural waist (no sagging) and to the end of the fingertips or more (length – some students might require a longer measurement according to their body to stay within the modesty expectation). Athletic shorts are acceptable with the same expectations.
- Shoes: Neat and presentable closed toed shoes must be worn on campus at all times. Tennis shoes are required for PE. With the layout of the campus decking and terrain, safety concerns require this type of shoe.
- Occasional Dress: Students may be required to dress accordingly for their Presentation of Learning exhibit, speech, or demonstration. The teacher will notify the student of the requirements of dress at these times. The range of dress will be from casual to professional dress (Sunday best). Communication is more than talking to an audience, it is also providing a visual of confidence from the individual presenting which includes appropriateness in dress and grooming.
- Jackets/ sweaters/ sweatshirts: Neat, presentable, and appropriate cover for the climate.
- Hats: Appropriate for the climate or occasion, inside the building or classroom when permitted.
- Hairstyles, and facial hair, need to be well groomed.
- Piercings and tattoos will be addressed individually in the scope of safety, modesty, and respect.
- Form fitting clothing is prohibited. Appropriate undergarments must be worn at all times.