

## Dress Code

Newman Catholic Middle-High School believes that appropriate dress and personal grooming are essential to maintaining a positive atmosphere for learning. The dress code promotes the virtue of self-respect and is reflective of the inner dignity given to us by God. The code supports standards set by the Diocese of La Crosse to encourage personal respect and responsibility. The dress code is designed to minimize distractions and maintain an appropriate learning environment.

If a student is unsure if an article of clothing or accessory is in compliance they are encouraged to ask in advance. For a quick visual reference click here: <https://vimeo.com/743556590?share=copy>

### **Adherence to the dress code as stated below is the student and family's responsibility.**

Failure to adhere to the dress code may result in the student being required to change, a request for a parent to bring dress code appropriate clothing to school or a detention may be issued. Three failures of compliance notifications via Dress Code Violation Report and will automatically lead to a detention. NCS administration and staff expect students and families to comply with the dress code. This allows staff and students to focus time and energy on teaching and learning. NCS administration reserves the right to deviate from the dress code at their discretion when circumstances warrant. The administration also reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.

### **General Guidelines**

Neat, clean, self respecting, no visible rips, frays, or holes. No see-through fabrics. Modest styles and must fit properly. Undergarments should not be visible. No outerwear or blankets may be worn inside.

### **Logo, Color, and Pattern Guideline for all Clothing**

Neutral content – Newman, college and athletic brands, (Nike, Under Armour etc...) logo/emblem/trademark are acceptable only. No additional messaging or promotions allowed. No camouflage prints or military style clothing allowed.

Solids, stripes, plaids, overall prints i.e. geometric, floral, polka-dots, patterns are permitted.

### **Pants/Slacks/Capris**

Khakis – any color is approved. No blue denim jeans, other colors are allowed. Neutral solid color leggings, and yoga pants can be worn, **provided the top covers to the back of the mid-thigh**. No pajama bottoms, sweatpants, spandex, warm-up/workout pants, are allowed.

### **Shorts/Dresses/Skirts**

Modest styles of knee length are allowed. No athletic shorts except for gym. Middle School student can wear shorts in August-September and May ONLY. High School students can wear shorts all year long.

### **Shirts/Sweaters/Sweatshirts**

**No** short-sleeved athletic t-shirts may be worn as primary wear. Shirts must cover the entire upper torso during classroom/school activities. **No** tank tops, cut-off sleeves, off-the-shoulder, or spaghetti straps as primary wear. Sleeveless shirts for females, only if shirt covers majority of shoulder and collared/chest/neck area. **No** Midriff or short shirt styles. Undergarments should not be visible and shirts should have modest necklines. Sweatshirts/Hooded Sweatshirts **must** follow logo guidelines listed above. Hoodies allowed, but **not** to be worn on Mass days or with hood up while in school. Crew sweatshirts permissible. **No** outdoor coats worn in school. (Fashion jackets & blazers in solid neutral colors are allowed.)

**Footwear/Shoes/Socks**

Shoes must be worn at all times and comply with student safety and activity needs. Sandals are acceptable as long as they have a strap across the toe. **No** roller shoes, steel-toed or combat boots, athletic slides, water shoes, rubber shoes or Crocs.

**Hair/Make-up/Accessories**

Neat, clean, reasonable length, **natural – neutral** colors. Boys must be clean-shaven and no long sideburns. **No** caps, hats, bandanas, or sunglasses indoors unless medically necessary. **No** accessories that distract or draw attention. Piercings in ears only – standard – **no** plugs. **No** visible tattoos.

**Mass, Prayer Services**

Dress to a higher standard than other school days. Mass is special! **No** shorts, athletic style clothes, hoodies or sweatshirts.

**Physical Education Class**

P.E. classes for all grades require athletic style shoes and socks. School appropriate t-shirt and shorts and must be worn for middle and high school. The PE teacher will provide specific information, at the beginning of the semester.

**NCS Spirit Days (Most Fridays)**

Blue jeans and NCS spirit shirts are allowed on Fridays unless otherwise noted by the school. All spirit wear clothing must follow usual dress code guidelines with the exceptions of blue jeans and athletic style T-shirts. Blue jeans may only be worn with NCS Spirit Wear. If **not** wearing an NCS Spirit shirt, sweatshirt or other approved clothing, regular dress code must be followed.

**Formal Dances:** Appropriate attire for formal dances will be addressed with students prior to the event. A **Dress Code Compliance Agreement** form will be distributed, and must be signed by both the student and parent/guardian.

**Special Occasions:** When there is need for a special occasion dress, the supervising staff or school administration will inform students in writing of appropriate attire. This would include, but is not limited to events such as musical concerts, field trips and graduation. All manner of dress must fit within the guidelines set forth by the school for the class or event.