

Dress Code/Appearance

Students are expected to dress appropriately throughout the academic school year. Clothing other than what is detailed in the dress code policy is not allowed. **Please make sure that all personal items are marked with the student's name.**

Northstar operates under the premise that school teaches the skills necessary for life after high school, whether that's the world of work or continued education. A student's dress and presentation reflect personal and school standards. Accordingly, we expect all students to come to school ready to work in a learning state of mind.

Overall Guidelines for Dress

- Clothing should be clean and in good repair (no holes, fringe, or decorative alterations such as beads or cut collar), ride on the waist, and fit appropriately.
- Clothing should be opaque and cover all undergarments and midriff when sitting, standing, or moving. Students are active during the school day both in the classroom and on the worksite, attire should be appropriate for movement.
- Coats are strongly encouraged during especially cold weather. Heavy jackets/coats, lined flannel shirts, hooded sweatshirts, and fleeces (with or without sleeves) should be left in the student's backpack except when the temperature is below 50 degrees.
- Career Center students should wear shoes and clothes appropriate for their course (please refer to the syllabus for your student's course).

Daily Dress Code Requirements:

- Solid color t-shirt, "polo" shirt (collared), turtleneck or button down. Shirts should have no graphics or text. Northstar branded t-shirts, "polo" shirts, and hoodies are permitted.
- Solid colored sweaters, hoodies, jackets, or sweatshirts without graphics or text.
- Neutral bottom including pants, shorts, or skirts that are solid colored with no holes and appropriate length. **(NO jeans)**
- All bottoms must be of good fit and length.
- Tennis-type shoes with socks (velcro allowed)
- All students are required to wear athletic shoes for physical education.

Relaxed Dress Code (Dress Down) Guidelines

On relaxed dress code days (Fridays or special occasions as announced) students are allowed to wear jeans or shorts (weather permitting). Students are allowed to wear attire with graphics as long as the writing and/or images are school appropriate.

Prohibited Attire – All Students

Students who are dressed inappropriately will not be allowed to sit with their class, attend field trips, or participate in athletic events.

Distractions must be kept to a minimum:

- Distracting hair styles are not permitted. Fantasy/non-natural hair color is permitted on pieces or chunks of hair, but should not cover the entire head.
- Piercings and tattoos should not be distracting.

Unacceptable attire includes, but is not limited to:

- Clothing depicting alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sex, violence and other questionable material such as messages that negatively represent a religion, ethnicity, culture, gender, or people, or other offensive slogans/expressions that could cause disruption to the learning environment.
- Cut off or torn, ripped, or slashed clothing
- Excessively baggy/oversized clothing. Students may be asked to wear a belt as needed.
- Tight/form fitting or revealing apparel/clothing including above the waist shirts.
- Clothing that is see through, revealing the midriff (while standing, sitting, or moving around the classroom), or resembles undergarments.
- Tops must be at least 2 inches wide at the shoulder.
- Shorts, dresses and skirts must be an appropriate length for movement as to not be revealing. Students may wear leggings or shorts under skirts or dresses.
- Sandals, flip flops, bedroom slippers, or shoes with wheels
- Sleepwear and beachwear (which includes bathing suits, trunks)
- Hats (on heads), hoods, or face masks (that cover more than the mouth and nose) indoors, unless required for religious or medical reasons
- Sunglasses (worn indoors), unless prescribed by a physician
- Accessories should be safe for learning and minimize distractions. Wallet chains, spiked jewelry, and items which could cause injury are prohibited.
- Clothing including bandanas suggestive of gang colors, designs or symbols.

The guidelines provided for dress code never outweigh the subjective judgment of the school administrators. The school reserves the right to evaluate a student on a daily basis, and the possibility exists that a student would be technically within guidelines and still be viewed as inappropriately dressed. Determination of the Dress Code will be at the discretion of the Head of School or designee.

Families must cooperate in seeing that students are appropriately attired. Students not in compliance with the dress code will be asked to obtain appropriate attire before attending classes. **Note that this may require a special trip to the school by the family.** Repeat offenders may be ineligible for "dress down" days.