



## **RWS 2014-15 Dress Code Policy**

Clothing is part of the classroom environment. The dress code is designed to create an atmosphere conducive to learning by focusing attention on the children and not on their clothing. The faculty reserves the right to decide if dress and appearance constitute a distraction. If a child is not dressed appropriately, parents will be called to bring a change of clothing before the child is permitted in the classroom. Parents and students are expected to abide by the decision of the teacher.

### **General Principles**

- Proper school attire promotes self-respect and a positive attitude.
- Students should wear clothing that is clean, neat, modest and suitable for the activity and the season.
- Clothing should be well fitted – not so large or long that it extends over hands or feet.
- Likewise, clothing should not be overly short or tight.
- Clothing may not have tears, holes or unfinished edges (such as cut-off jeans).
- Natural fibers that breathe such as cotton, wool and hemp are encouraged.

### **Clothing for Playing and Working Outdoors**

Children play and work outside every day so they should bring or wear appropriate gear.

- For wet weather: a raincoat – with a hood or a hat – and boots
- For cold days: a warm coat, hat, mittens or gloves, leg coverings
- For snowy days: same as above plus boots
- For transitional days: layers that can be adjusted
- For hot sunny days: sunscreen or a sunhat.

### **Change of Clothes**

- Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade children should keep a bag with a complete change of clothes in school, including extra pants, shirts, underwear and socks
- All articles left at school should be labeled with the child's name.

## Specific Guidelines

### **School Dress**

Students should wear:

- Clothing that is clean, neat, and in good condition.
- Clothing that is suitable for school activities, for the weather and the season.
- Clothing that is free of images, words, and logos, except for RWS insignia. Brands and trademarks should be unobtrusive.
- Clothing that avoids extremes—not too long or short, too tight or loose, too bulky or skimpy\*.
- Clothing that is modest and does not call undue attention to the child's body\*\*.
- Shoes that are functional for all activities, indoor and out\*\*\*.
- Hair styles and jewelry that avoid extremes, are not distracting, and do not interfere with the student's ability to participate fully in the program.
- Students in grades 6 – 8 may wear make-up and nail polish and dye their hair in natural shades. These should avoid extremes and not be distracting.

*Specifics:*

\* Waistbands should be above the hips; pant legs should not touch the floor, and shirt sleeves should not extend beyond the wrists.

\*\*Shirts should have at least 2" of fabric at the shoulder, should cover cleavage, and should cover the midriff area when arms are extended up. Skirt and short hemlines should reach the child's fingertips. Form-fitting pants or leggings must be covered by skirts or shorts

\*\*\*No platform, battery lit, roller-skate or backless shoes; no flip-flops, clogs, or shoes with heels over 1".

### **Assembly Dress**

For school assemblies and celebrations students should wear the following:

- Girls: knee-length dress or dress pants or knee-length or longer skirt with a dress blouse; dress shoes (no heels more than 1"; no backless shoes).
- Boys in grades 1 – 3: trousers (no jeans) or dress shorts with a collared shirt; dress shoes; a tie is encouraged.
- Boys in grades 4 – 5: trousers (no jeans or shorts) with a collared shirt; dress shoes; a tie is encouraged.
- Boys in grades 6 – 8: trousers (no jeans or shorts) with a button-down shirt; dress shoes; a tie is required

### **Concert Dress**

For musical performances students should wear the following:

- Girls: black dress pants or knee-length or longer skirt; white dress blouse; dress shoes with heels no more than 1" high.
- Boys: black trousers (no jeans) with a white button-down shirt; dress shoes.