



COUNTRYSIDE ACADEMY
4800 Meadowbrook Rd., Benton Harbor, MI 49022
E.L.C., 4821 North St., Benton Harbor, MI 49022



DRESS CODE

Effective February 11, 2009

The Board of Directors of Countryside Academy has created dress code standards as a tool for enhancing social responsibility and developing a sense of self-discipline and self worth. The administration, staff, and parent volunteers strive to provide a value-oriented atmosphere and a climate of high expectations conducive to helping each student realize his or her own potential.

Students must present themselves at school neat and clean at all times. Obviously, a dress code cannot be written to cover every single situation. **Administration will make the final decision if there is a question about the dress code.**

If students are not in dress code, they are not allowed in the classroom and will fall under the regulations of the attendance policy. (See Attendance Policy.)

Slacks: Students shall wear plain, basic slacks. They shall not have slits, laces, glitter, studs, etc. Pockets shall be sewn on the inside with slit openings, in other words, no patch pockets, no cargo/carpenter pockets, no outside sewing to attach the pocket to the slacks. Slacks shall fit appropriately and be worn at the waist. Colors may be solid black, navy blue, or tan. Denim slacks are not allowed.

Shorts/Capri Pants: Shorts/Capri pants may be worn from the beginning of the school year through September 30 and again from May 1 through the end of the school year. Shorts must be no shorter than five inches from the bottom of the knee, shall fit appropriately, and be worn at the waist. Colors may be solid black, navy blue, or tan. Denim shorts are not allowed.

Skirts/Jumpers: Girls may wear plain, basic skirts or jumpers. Skirt length shall be no shorter than five inches from the bottom of the knee. They shall not have slits any higher than five inches from the bottom of the knee. They shall not have laces, glitter, studs, etc. Skirts shall fit appropriately and be worn at the waist. Colors may be solid black, navy blue, tan, or plaid (plaid shall be navy, green, with yellow, red, and white stripes).

Shirts: Shirts will have a collar (examples include but are not limited to oxford or polo) or turtleneck, and must be neatly tucked inside the slacks/shorts/skirt. Inappropriate garments shall not be visible through the shirt (examples include but are not limited to logo tee-shirts and dark colored undergarments). Colors may be solid black, navy blue, light blue, or white. The only logo shirts allowed must be logo shirts approved by the Administration.

Sweaters/Sweatshirts: Plain pullover (any neck style) or knit sweaters or sweatshirts may be worn, but **must** be worn over the dress code shirt except when wearing the Countryside Academy-logo hooded sweatshirt approved by the Administration. No logos, hoods, jackets, etc. are allowed unless it is a Countryside Academy logo hooded/non-hooded sweatshirt approved by the Administration. Colors may be solid black, navy blue, light blue, or white.

Shoes: Shoes must be solid black, solid white, solid brown, solid navy blue, or a combination of two of these colors. No other colors are allowed. Brown hiking boots slightly higher than the ankle are also acceptable. No open-toe or open-heel shoes or sandals are allowed.

Jewelry/Belts/Make Up/Body Art: Girls may wear one small earring per ear, attached to the earlobe only. No other body-piercing jewelry is allowed during school hours or at school functions. Jewelry, such as necklaces, bracelets, etc. will be allowed as long as it is not excessive and/or considered to be a distraction. Belts shall be plain, without jewels, studs, etc., and must be worn around the waist only. Make up is permitted as long as it is not excessive and/or considered to be a distraction. Visible tattoos and body art are not permitted and must be covered.

Hair: No student shall be allowed to have any bizarre or unnatural hair color. Non-hair accessories are not allowed in a student's hair (examples include but are not limited to glitter, feathers, pencils, binder clips). No student shall be allowed to wear extreme haircuts (examples include but are not limited to Mohawks, spikes, asymmetrical). Male students' hair will not be below the top of the collar. No student's hair will come below the eyebrows or hang in their face.