

WEAVERLAND MENNONITE SCHOOLS

Guidelines for School Attire, Accessories, and Digital Devices

July 2025

It is the desire of the School Boards and Ministry to maintain a school atmosphere that is Scriptural and conducive to good learning. In observing what has happened in other schools, we believe that styles and fads can become of such importance to our children that it can be a hinderance to learning, a hinderance to the church, and a hinderance to parents who wish to maintain a simple and modest lifestyle. To remain a Scripturally based school, we feel that guidelines must be set to maintain the principal of nonconformity. A school that is free from the competition of stylish dressing will contribute to an atmosphere that will foster happiness and develop a feeling of common practice among students.

We appeal to parents to assist in helping to maintain a Scriptural separation from the world. It will be an asset to the Church, an asset to our children, and another steppingstone on their journey to becoming the sons and daughters of God. Considering the pressures and the temptations about us in the world today, does it not motivate us to do all we can to help our children find their place in the Lord's Kingdom? We have no time to lose; the challenge is here, today! Today we have the opportunity to guide our young children. When our children grow up and look us straight in the eye, the opportunity we have today has been lost. Let us rise to the challenge.

BOY'S ATTIRE

All articles of clothing shall be of decent color, fit, and design becoming for a people claiming not to be conformed to this world. Following are some practices and items that are considered NOT acceptable.

- Stylish haircuts (hair not to be parted in the middle except for religious reasons).
- Stone washed, acid-washed, and suchlike articles.
- White and baggy pants. (Example of baggy-cargo or carpenter).
- Going without belts or suspenders (shall be worn at all times).
- Tee shirts (slip-over shirts with collars and buttons are acceptable).
- Pictures and writing displayed on clothing.
- Sleeveless shirts, turtle neck shirts and turtle neck sweater and long sleeve shirts underneath (over) short sleeve pull over shirts (sleeves to cover no less than half the upper arm).
- Cowboy boots and other boot-type footwear (except boots worn for rain, snow, or protection from the weather).
- Stylish shoes including high-top and fad type shoes. Shoes must be tied at all times.
- Sock must be of sufficient length (to mid-calf).

GIRL'S ATTIRE

All articles of clothing shall be of decent color, fit, and design becoming for a people claiming not to be conformed to this world. Following are some practices and items that are considered NOT acceptable.

- Cut hair, including bangs (hair to be neatly combed and arranged according to the standards of the parent's church).
- Big bows in hair.
- Stone washed, acid-washed, and suchlike articles.
- Pictures and writings displayed on clothing.
- Slip-over sweaters, turtleneck sweaters, turtleneck blouses, and decorative scarves.
- Skirts and blouses, culottes, jumpers, and suchlike. (Dresses shall be made of one material without contrasting colors, including collars and belts.) Striped material shall run in one direction.
- Ruffles and laces (except minimal).
- Ruffles at bottom of dresses.
- Sleeveless dresses (sleeves to cover no less than half of the upper arm). Short-sleeve pullovers on top of long-sleeve dresses).
- Extra long or form-fitting gown-type dresses.
- Stylish shoes including high-top and fad type shoes. Shoes must be tied at all times.
- Short leg-wear (stockings to meet the dress below the knees).
- Small coverings (the Weaverland Mennonite School board requests that girls wearing coverings have coverings with corners as the Conference Report requests. We also encourage larger coverings with covering strings attached. When girls begin to wear coverings, it is a very appropriate time to begin wearing cape dresses. Girls from other church groups are also expected to support a modest dress style, and if a covering is worn, it shall be a covering as is requested by their respective church).
- Snow pants (4th grade and up).

ACCESSORIES

Lunch boxes, loose leaf binders, note books and all other articles shall not display pictures that do not promote and support a quiet and peaceable life of God's people.

DIGITAL DEVICES

Digital devices have the potential to create distractions and negative peer pressure. They are also a channel for inappropriate content. Following are some items that are considered NOT acceptable for students.

- Devices used for playing games, watching videos, or listening to music.
- Devices capable of sending/receiving messages, making calls, or accessing the internet.
- Devices that could be used for cheating on lessons or tests.
- Smart watches, fitness trackers, and other wearable technology. If a watch needs to be worn, it should be a basic model used only for keeping time.