

**X. DRESS CODE GUIDELINES:**

Uniform options include:

<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>BOYS</b>
Rampart plaid jumper Rampart plaid skirt Rampart plaid skort Navy skort Navy corduroy skort with attached lycra shorts Navy anchor twill pleated skirt with attached shorts Navy anchor twill walking shorts Navy anchor twill pants Plain white long or short sleeved collared blouse Plain white long sleeved turtleneck Long or short-sleeved white polo shirt with or without VCS logo Royal blue short sleeved polo shirt with VCS logo VCS navy or royal blue crew neck sweatshirt VCS navy blue 1/4 zip sweatshirt VCS navy micro fleece vest or jacket VCS long sleeved V-neck or crew neck button front cardigan sweater Plain anklets, knee-highs, tights, or leggings in navy, black, royal blue, gray, or white	Gray or navy twill pants Gray or navy twill walking shorts Long or short-sleeved white polo shirt with or without VCS logo Long or short-sleeved royal blue polo shirt with VCS logo Plain white long sleeved turtleneck VCS navy or royal blue crew neck sweatshirt VCS navy blue 1/4 zip sweatshirt VCS navy micro fleece vest or jacket VCS long sleeved V-neck or crew neck button front cardigan sweater Plain socks in navy, black, royal blue, gray, or white
<b>GRADES 4 &amp; 5 BOYS AND GIRLS PE:</b>	
Navy blue shorts Light blue VCS PE T-shirt	

You may purchase most of these uniform items at the Dennis Uniform Company store in Portland at 135 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Their phone number is (503) 234-7431 or (800) 854 & 5951. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You can also purchase Dennis Uniform clothing online and have it delivered to your home. Dennis Uniform’s website is <http://www.dennisuniform.com>. Our school code is: 59100.

**A. Dress Code Directives:**

The goal of these dress code directives is to maximize the student’s focus on the learning environment by decreasing possible distractions. We partner with Dennis Uniform, JC Penny and Lands’ End for your school uniform needs. Uniform expectations are in place so that the focus is on learning and not on the latest fashion trends.

With your partnership in following these directives, students are also able to balance learning with occasional opportunities to wear free dress. Free Dress Days also have expectations for what is school appropriate.

Again, the ultimate goal is that students are practicing modesty at all times to keep the students focused on learning. All students, whether in uniform or free dress are expected to be clean and tidy in appearance.

### **1. Pants and Shorts**

Pants and shorts may also be ordered from J.C. Penney Uniform Catalog or Land's End School Catalog. All pants and shorts must be poly/cotton blend. **Pants and shorts other than Dennis Uniform, J.C. Penney's Uniform, or Land's End Uniform, are not acceptable.** Pants and shorts must fit at the waist. Shorts are to be no longer than mid-knee and no shorter than 3 inches above the knee.

### **2. Skirts, Skorts, and Jumpers**

Skirts and skorts must fit at the waist. Skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. If shorts are worn under skirts, they must not show beneath the hemline of the skirt.

### **3. Shirts, Sweatshirts, Cardigan Sweaters, and Fleece Vests and Jackets**

Plain white polo shirts may be purchased from any retailer. They may be long or short sleeved, and they must have a plain (no lace or scalloped edges) pointed collar, banded sleeves, and a 2-3 button placket. They must have no logos. Polo shirts purchased from Dennis Uniform will have the school logo. The royal blue polo shirts must be purchased from Dennis Uniform. Plain white, long-sleeved mock or true turtle neck shirts may be purchased from any retailer. Shirts and blouses must be kept tucked in.

All shirts, blouses, sweatshirts, cardigan sweaters, and fleece vests and jackets must fit at the shoulder seams. A uniform shirt must be worn under a school sweatshirt. Blouses must be plain white with long or short sleeves, cotton or cotton blend, with a plain, Peter-Pan type collar (no additional lace, bows, etc.). If an undershirt is worn under a uniform shirt, it must be white. Sweatshirts, cardigan sweaters, vests, and jackets must be purchased from Dennis Uniform, and they will have the VCS school logo.

### **4. Shoes and Socks**

Shoes must be safe for P.E., recess, and using the stairs. They should not have the type of black soles that mark the floor. Shoes must have a closed toe and heel — this means no sandals, clogs, “Crocs”, or other types of backless slip-ons. Shoes must also provide adequate support and sturdiness - No boots (including “Uggs” and hiking boots), deep grooved soles, high heels, “heelies,” or TOMS are allowed. Shoes should not have flashing lights. Shoelaces must be tied.

The best shoes for school are athletic-type shoes, like running or all-sport shoes. “Mary Janes” are also OK for girls to wear.

Socks must be worn with all shoes, and they may be plain navy, black, royal blue, gray, or white. Plain navy, black, royal blue, gray, or white tights with attached feet or full-length leggings (all the way to the ankle) are OK for girls, but legwarmers are not. “Plain” means a solid color with no patterns or designs. (A small, non-distracting logo on socks is acceptable). Socks must be visible above the shoe.

### **5. Other Dress Code Information:**

- Students are expected to have a tidy, clean appearance each day.
- Hats, caps, visors, bandanas, or sunglasses (prescription transition glasses are acceptable) are not to be worn in the building.
- Sunglasses, with the exception of prescription transition glasses, are not to be worn at recess.
- Uniforms are to be worn to and from school. Students are not to change out of their school uniform while still on campus, except for sports practice.
- Sweatshirts, cardigan sweaters, or fleece vests and jackets other than official VCS labeled clothing are not to be worn in the building during the day, except when going to and from recess. Non-VCS labeled clothing may only be worn as outerwear during recess time. This includes CYO sweatshirts.

- School logo clothing from other public or private schools in the area is not to be worn at school.
- Valley Catholic Middle School uniform clothing may not be worn to school by Elementary School students. In particular, this includes cargo shorts and pants, khakis, and clothing with a specific Valley Catholic Middle School logo or wording.
- Scouts or Camp Fire uniforms may be worn to school on meeting days.
- All students need adequate outerwear in rainy or cold weather.
- Girls may wear plain gray, white, navy, royal blue or black headbands, hair ties, hair bows, or scrunchies, or the Rampart Plaid headbands, hair bows, beads or scrunchies available from Dennis Uniform. Other colors of headbands, hair bows, scrunchies, or scarves are not allowed.
- Girls may wear post earrings no bigger than a dime. Dangling earrings are prohibited for safety reasons.
- Only religious jewelry is allowed for both boys and girls.
- Smart watches (Apple, Samsung, FitBit or any other brand) and other accessories with internet/texting/calling capabilities are not to be worn during the school day.
- Colored nail polish, earrings on boys, makeup, colored or bleached hair, and extreme hairstyles are not permitted.
- Boys' hair should not touch the shirt collar or hang over the eyes.

Any VCES staff member can determine whether students are in compliance with dress code guidelines. Parents will be contacted by e-mail, uniform notice or phone for issues regarding dress code violations. Resolution of repeat problems will be at the discretion of the principal and staff.

## **6. Physical Education Uniform**

Students in grades 4 and 5 will need navy blue shorts and a light blue PE T-shirt, sold by Dennis Uniform. PE tops cannot be worn under a uniform shirt. Swimsuits for all grades will be needed for about two months of the year. More information about appropriate swim attire can be found in the Curriculum section on page 9.

## **A. Free Dress Days**

### **1. General Guidelines**

If the free dress day is not a First Communion celebration, theme-dress, or field day, students are to come to school dressed in regular street clothes. Students must be able to participate in regular classes and activities. Students must bring their gym clothes if it's a P.E. day. Unless otherwise stated, tight fitting clothing is never allowed.

### **2. Pants, Shorts, Skirts, and Dresses**

Pants and shorts must fit at the waist. Jeans, capris, cropped pants, sweatpants or warm-ups are fine as long as they fit properly with no rips, holes or frayed edges. Shorts must be mid-thigh or longer. The longer-length athletic shorts are acceptable. Skirts and dresses must be no shorter than 3" above the knee. Cotton leggings or jeggings are permitted with a skirt, dress or top that reaches mid-thigh or longer.

### **3. Shirts**

Shirts must fit at the shoulder seams. All shirts must have sleeves—tank tops are not allowed. Sweatshirts and T-shirts are fine if they fit and do not display inappropriate logos or phrases. Shirts must cover a student's stomach and back even when arms are raised over the head.

### **4. Shoes**

The same guidelines as a regular, non-free dress day are to be followed on free dress days.

### **5. Special Occasions and Theme Dress Days**

There are special occasions and theme-dress days, such as Field Day, First Communion Mass, Beach Day, Sports Team Day, etc., for which students may be given special directions that differ from these.

### **6. “Free Dress for \$1 Day”**

Each month the VCES Student Council promotes a “Free Dress for \$1 Day” to get our students personally involved in supporting student-driven service projects. Students are expected to follow the free dress guidelines.

### **7. Free Dress Coupons**

Free dress coupons are occasionally given as incentives or prizes. They may not be used on Mass or prayer service days (usually Wednesdays), during standardized testing days, or on “Free Dress for \$1 Day.”

**Students are responsible for following free dress and theme dress day directions.**