

Parker Performing Arts School Official Uniform Policy

In order to fulfill the Mission and Vision of Parker Performing Arts School, students are required to wear school uniforms. The school learning culture is significantly influenced by student attire. The intention of the school uniform is to promote learning, promote school unity and pride, to reduce peer pressure from clothing trends and styles, and to reduce disruption and disciplinary problems.

Our policy is intended to provide options in attire, to be conservative and modest, to minimize distractions, to be simple and easy to understand, and to maintain standards with as minimal financial impact on families as possible.

Parents are expected to regularly review the uniform policy with their student(s). Parents are expected to rigorously uphold and comply with the school uniform policy for and with their student(s), and strictly adhere to the complete uniform policy as a choice and condition of continual enrollment Parker Performing Arts School.

The uniform policy has three major parts: general information, personal appearance and grooming, and required and optional clothing.

General Information

Uniforms may ONLY be purchased from our designated uniform vendor, *Uniform Consignment*, and must be the “*Classroom School Uniform*” brand. New uniforms may be purchased during in person events or on the PPA website. Gently worn and previously owned uniforms will also be available to purchase or sell back to Uniform Consignment during in person events. Gently worn and previously owned uniforms from other charter schools may be sold to Uniform Consignment for cash or credit toward purchase of PPA uniforms.

PPA has day to day uniform requirements for the majority of school days, and also a formal uniform designed to be worn on formal dress day as well as performances and other occasions.

PPA official uniform colors are black for all bottoms, and either black, heather gray, red, ballet pink, or white for all tops.

Dress of Choice Day:

PPA will have a Dress of Choice Day the first Friday of every month, and on other special occasions as dictated by the school principal. Dress of Choice clothing must be in good condition, free of holes and tears, be modest and conservative, and be neat in appearance. Shorts, skorts, skirts, and scooters are should meet the knee length requirement. The policies for shoes, hair accessories, and personal grooming are enforced exactly as stated below. Pajamas, midriff shirts, tank top shirts, spaghetti strap shirts, halter top shirts, or similar shirts are not acceptable attire. Clothing with inappropriate words, messaging, pictures, or symbols are not considered acceptable dress of choice attire. Hats may only be worn when designated by the school principal.

Exceptions to Uniform Policy:

The school principal may allow exceptions to the uniform policy on a case by case basis in extenuating circumstances defined by PPA as either medical, legal, religious, or other personal hardship. The school principal may authorize additional exceptions or allow alternate options to the uniform policy such as:

- PPA Spirit Days
- Individual rewards or prizes to students
- Support of charitable causes

- Support of local professional sports, collegiate sports, or collegiate spirit days
 - Special performing arts costumes or costume makeup may be approved by the school principal to support performing arts programming and events
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Personal Appearance and Grooming

Hair Styles and Accessories:

- All hair must be one (1) single natural hair color.
- Hair should be clean and groomed.
- There are no hair length restrictions for boys or girls, however, when participating in dancing or acrobatics and tumbling, hair must be pulled back and tied, safe, and out of the child's face.
- All hairstyles should be simple and conservative. Distracting hairstyles, including head shavings or mohawks, are not allowed.
- Headbands, hair ties, bows, barrettes, and other hair accessories are permitted in the color(s) of your choice.
- Students may wear a maximum of up to two (2) hair accessories. For safety in our school and also to prevent distraction in the learning environment, students should refrain from wearing any large or lengthy hair accessories that could injure or be hazardous to any child.
- Hair extensions, hair insertions, feathers, streamers, ribbon, or other decoration in hair are not allowed. (religious or cultural exceptions can be approved on a case by case basis).

Personal Grooming For All Boys and Girls:

- Regular bathing or showering is required
- Regular laundering of uniforms is required
- One (1) small stud earring per ear only
- No necklaces are allowed
- No bracelets are allowed
- One (1) standard wrist watch may be worn if size and features will not injure or be hazardous to any child
- No makeup is allowed
- Nail polish in any one (1) solid color of choice for all nails, and no decorations or bling are allowed
- No temporary or permanent tattoos, including writing or drawing in ink on skin (religious or cultural exceptions can be approved on a case by case basis)

Required and Optional Clothing

General Clothing Information:

- All shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- All uniforms must be in good condition, and free of holes and tears.
- All shorts, skirts, skorts, and scooters should be knee length.
- All formal uniform white shirts for girls and boys, V-neck sweaters, sweater vests, cardigans, official PPA sweatshirts, or official PPA jackets must have an embroidered PPA logo.
- Only approved uniform shirts may be worn under sweaters, vests, cardigans, PPA sweatshirts, or PPA jackets.
- No hats are allowed.

Required/Optional Uniform Items

Items designated "*Classroom School Uniform*" must be purchased through appointed uniform vendor ONLY, other items may be either purchased through uniform vendor or any other local retailer option(s).

Formal Uniform Boys Grades K-8 (must be pressed/ironed and clean)

Required

- *Classroom School Uniform* black uniform pants
- *Classroom School Uniform* white long sleeve Oxford button up shirt with PPA embroidered logo
- Black crew size socks
- Solid black shoes with black soles, black shoe laces if applicable, any approved style (see below)

Formal Uniform Girls Grades K-8 (must be pressed/ironed and clean)

Required

- *Classroom School Uniform* black uniform skirt, or scooter, or skort
- *Classroom School Uniform* white long sleeve Oxford (5th-8th) or Peter Pan (K-4th) button up shirt with PPA embroidered logo
- White knee high socks only (no leggings or tights with formal uniform)
- Solid black shoes with black soles, black shoe laces if applicable, any approved style (see below)

Day to Day Uniforms Boys Grades K-8

Required

- *Classroom School Uniform* black pants, shorts, or athletic pants or athletic shorts
- Tucked in *Classroom School Uniform* short or long sleeve uniform polo shirts; black, heather gray, red, ballet pink, or white

Optional

- *Classroom School Uniform* button up cardigan, V-neck sweater, or sweater vest with PPA embroidered logo; black, heather gray, or red

Day to Day Uniforms Girls Grades K-8

Required

- *Classroom School Uniform* black pants, shorts, skirts, jumper, scooters, skorts, or athletic pants or athletic shorts
- Tucked in *Classroom School Uniform* short or long sleeve uniform polo shirts; black, heather gray, red, ballet pink, or white

Optional

- *Classroom School Uniform* button up cardigan, V-neck sweater, or sweater vest with PPA embroidered logo; black, heather gray, or red

Grades 5-8 Boys and Girls Dance Students Only

Required

- (Dance students only) *Classroom School Uniform* black athletic pants or athletic shorts
- (Dance students only) *Classroom School Uniform* athletic shirt; speckled black and heather gray

Student Choice Items

Belts:

Belts are not allowed for students in grades K-4. Belts are optional for students in grades 5-8. If worn, belts must be plain solid black belts and may not have any decorative elements including “bling”, wording, or images. Belt buckles must be plain and free of any wording, messaging, pictures, or symbols are allowed.

Socks, Tights, Leggings:

- Socks must be worn to school every day.
- All socks must be a plain and free from lace, frill, or other extra design elements; solid colors only, black, slate gray, or white.

- Boys must wear crew size socks with every outfit combination every day; black, slate gray, or white (black socks are required on formal days).
- Girls must wear either crew size socks, or knee high socks (required white knee high socks on formal day), or tights, or pantyhose, with every outfit combination every day; black, slate gray, or white.
- Alternatively, girls wearing skirts, skorts, scooters, or shorts may wear full length leggings, but leggings must also be accompanied by crew size socks. For safety reasons in tumbling classes, girls K-4 are encouraged to only wear footless tights; black, slate gray, traditional light ballet pink, or white leggings.

Shoes:

PPA believes that families should purchase shoes that benefit the child’s long term health, rather than to have a policy forcing them to buy a particular brand, color (excepting formal uniform with black shoes and black soles), or type of shoe. Any shoes may be worn day to day as long as the following guidelines are met.

- All shoes must be low top, closed toe shoes, and free from custom decor.
- Some theater and dance classes may require specific types of shoes to be worn for dance. Specific information will be provided to families if this is the case.
- Shoes must be factory made, and “off the shelf”.
- “Bling”, spikes of any kind, large & multiple buckles, long shoe laces, wheels of any kind, or shoes with any other feature that could injure or be hazardous to any child are not allowed.
- High tops, high heels or heels of any kind, wheelies, sandals, flip flops, slippers, Crocs, Uggs, or similar shoes are not allowed.
- Inappropriate words, messaging, pictures, or symbols are not allowed on shoes.
- Boots of any kind including snow boots are not allowed during school. If boots are worn to school due to weather conditions, they must be removed and kept in classroom cubbies or lockers during school hours (except at recess).

Jackets and Outerwear:

- Jackets or coats are not allowed to be worn during the school day in classes. When jackets or coats are worn to school, they must be removed and kept in classroom cubbies or lockers during school hours (except at recess). If there are systemic HVAC heating or cooling problems in the school, exceptions will be made.
- Uniform V-neck sweaters, sweater vests, and cardigans with the PPA logo are approved to wear during classes.
- Approved school jackets or sweatshirts with the PPA logo are approved to wear during classes. Please note that all students are required to wear an unaltered uniform short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt underneath approved school jackets or sweatshirts with the PPA logo.

Backpacks, Bags, Purses:

- Backpacks, bags, or purses should be kept in student’s classroom cubbies or lockers during the school day. Middle school students may take their backpack to their 8th period classes for dismissal.
- Backpacks, bags, or large purses made of hard materials, or with wheels of any type including luggage like bags are not allowed (they do not fit in cubbies or lockers).
- Inappropriate words, messaging, pictures, or symbols are not allowed on backpacks, bags, or purses.
- Exceptions can be made on a case by case basis for documented medical conditions requiring students to carry a bag of some kind.

Violations

Compliance with this uniform policy is a condition of continued enrollment at Parker Performing Arts School. Students found “bending the rules” or students in direct violation of the uniform policy as determined by school administration will face school disciplinary actions as defined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Policy History and Amendments

The PPA Board of Directors will review the uniform policy at least one time annually during school summer break, and will consider any additions, alternatives, or changes in the policy at any other time.

5/1/2016 - v1.0 - Original uniform policy created by Uniform Committee and voted on and approved by PPA BOD.

9/11/2016 - v1.1 - Small edits were made to the policy which include the following voted on and approved by the PPA BOD:

- Changed "PPAS" to "PPA" throughout the document.
- The "Socks, Tights, Leggings" section was re-written to clarify and be more understandable, overall policy did not change.
- The "Shoes" section was modified to clarify policy on heels, and high top shoes.
- The "Jackets and Outerwear" section was modified to allow PPA logo jackets and sweatshirts to be allowed to be worn in school during class. Language was added to include exception for HVAC outages.
- The "Backpacks, Bags, Purses" section was modified to add medical exceptions, and additions of policy against inappropriate content on items.

11/22/2016 - v1.2 - Edits were made to simplify some language throughout and account for suggestions to support PPA programming better as given by PPA Administration, especially in the performing arts. Voted on and approved by the PPA BOD:

- Allowed for nail polish in one solid color for all genders
- Allowed for one stud earrings per ear for all genders
- Allowed for black athletic pants to be worn as an additional option all day every day in school for all genders, except for formal day
- Belts are not allowed for grades K-4, and are optional (not required) for grades 5-8.
- Removed slate grey option from uniform policy as it is not becoming available from vendors except in socks, tights, and leggings.
- The "Exceptions to Uniform Policy" section was re-written to clarify and be more understandable, overall policy did not change.
- The "Socks, Tights, Leggings" section was modified to include recommendation for footless tights only grades K-4.
- The "Backpacks, Bags, Purses" section was modified to exclude any and all rolling bags or luggage like bags of any type.