



SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A Great Hearts Academy

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Dear Parents,

As we move into the second half of the school year, we want to address a matter that directly affects the tone and culture of our campus: adherence to our dress code.

Over the past several weeks, we have seen a noticeable increase in violations in two particular areas.

Skirt Length (Girls)

We recognize that students grow over the course of a school year, and garments that once met dress code standards may no longer do so. That is understandable. However, in the majority of cases we are addressing, skirts are being intentionally altered — most commonly rolled at the waist— to create a significantly shorter length than permitted.

The purpose of our uniform is modesty, uniformity, and a school atmosphere ordered toward learning rather than distraction. When skirt length consistently falls outside of the stated guidelines (no shorter than just above the knee), it undermines that purpose. As a result, enforcement of this standard will become a clear point of emphasis.

Undergarments Visible Below Shorts (Boys)

Similarly, we have observed an increasing number of young men wearing boxer briefs in such a way that they are visible below the bottom of their uniform shorts. While this may reflect broader cultural trends, it is not consistent with our dress code or with the decorum we expect on campus.

We have sought to address these issues with patience and discretion, giving students the opportunity to correct themselves. That practice will continue. However, when reminders are ignored or violations become habitual, consequences need to be dispensed. These may include detention or other disciplinary measures. Repeated violations may result in a student being required to wear uniform pants for the remainder of the school year.

Our aim is not punitive. It is formative. A classical school places a high value on order, modesty, and self-governance. The uniform is not incidental to that mission. It is part of the moral and cultural architecture of the school.

We ask for your partnership in ensuring that uniforms fit appropriately and are worn as intended. A brief review at home each morning can prevent unnecessary correction during the school day. We also ask for your support if you hear from us that your child has altered his or her attire once at school and in a manner inconsistent with what was approved at home.

Thank you for your continued support and for entrusting us with the education and formation of your children.

Mark McAfee
Headmaster