
DRESS CODE

As a student attending PCHS, you are an important part of our Augustinian community. Augustinians live their lives according to the *Rule of St. Augustine*. At PCHS we have a shorthand way of living the rule: Truth, Unity, Love.

We often bristle at the thought of “rules.” However, a rule is not something necessarily imposed upon you. At its deepest meaning, a rule is what regulates and orients your life. It really is a way of life; and as you know, our way of life here at PCHS is to be “one mind and one heart on the way to God.” We attempt to live the rule, journeying together, by living truth, unity, love.

How do we do that? First, we live *truth* when we honor and respect the beauty and dignity of each person as a child of God. We all come from different places, but we are all here – as one. PCHS celebrates the many ways that cultures and ethnicities express themselves.

Second, we live *unity* when we give a little of ourselves for the sake of the community. That is the purpose of a dress code and uniform. Just like a team, people can tell where we belong. You know the Augustinians by our habits. You wear your favorite team’s jersey to show your connection and support. The world knows you by your PCHS uniform. Therefore, the dress code is important: you not only represent yourself, but you also represent the whole PCHS family. That is where we show in a tangible or outward way that we are “one mind and one heart.”

Finally, we live *love* when we abide by the rule (truth, unity, love) in the way we present ourselves to each other and the world: with respect, with a willingness to be in solidarity, with a sense of purpose on our educational journey.

So, when you read the following aspects of the rule, remember they are concrete ways we live truth, unity, love. They are the way we live our Augustinian way.

POLO SHIRTS, FLEECES, SWEATSHIRTS, AND SWEATERS

Only long sleeve and short sleeve polo shirts, full and one-quarter zip fleece, one-quarter zip sweatshirts, and V-neck sweaters purchased from Midwest Promotional Group may be worn in school. A polo shirt with the Augustinian logo must always be worn Monday- Thursday. These articles of clothing are to be purchased via the Midwest Promotional Group website. A small inventory is available in the Spirit Shop. Absolutely no hoodies, even PCHS hoodies, may be worn during the school day.

Team apparel not purchased at Midwest Promotional Group may be worn only on last day of the week. You may not wear long sleeved shirts under short sleeve polos. All tops must be loose fitting. All polo shirts must be a length that allows them to remain tucked in at all times. Any shirt that does not fit in accordance with the PCHS policy will not be allowed. Shirts that do not fit properly will be covered with an oversized loaner shirt and the student will surrender their ID until the end of the next day when the loaner shirt is returned clean, and they will receive a detention.

PANTS, SLACKS & DRESS SHORTS

Students may wear solid color pants or slacks that are Dockers or similar brands. All pants/slacks must do the following: 1) Come to the waist and be worn there. 2) Have a waistband and belt loops. 3) Be worn with a leather or cloth belt inserted through belt loops. 4) Have cuffed or hemmed leg (no elastic). No yoga pants, leggings/jeggings may be worn, and pants may not have cargo pockets. Dress shorts must meet all rules mentioned above. The length of shorts may not be longer than the bend in the knee or shorter than 4 inches above the knee. Dress shorts may be worn in August, September, and May.

SHOES

Students must wear dress shoes that are black or brown leather, suede, or canvas. No shoes with athletic logos are allowed. Socks must be worn at all times. No fleece or wool can be on the outside of the shoe.

HAIR & FACIAL HAIR

All students’ hair should be neat, clean, and well-groomed. Any hair color, style, or accessory that brings undue attention is not permitted; this includes mohawks, shaving of the head, lines, etc. All hair should be of one natural color. Boy’s hair must be above the eyebrows, trimmed to not exceed the top of shirt collar in the back, and to the middle of their ear. Facial hair is not permitted. The hair code does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race or ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to protective hairstyles such as braids, locks and twists.

HATS & JEWELRY

Hats must be removed upon entering the school building and must remain off until leaving the building. Hemp jewelry may not be worn by anyone. Chains from belts to pockets are not allowed, i.e., attached to keys or wallet. Climbing hooks attached to belts, belt loops, or pockets are not allowed. **Boys may not wear any type of earrings or have any other piercings on their face or tongue in school or at school functions. Girls may not have piercings on their face or tongue, or wear any earring that will alter the shape of their ear or ear lobe, or have an excessive amount of earrings in school or at school functions.** Girls may not wear excessive decorations in their hair.

BACCALAUREATE MASS & GRADUATION ATTIRE

For these special events, senior boys are required to wear long pants, shirt and tie underneath their graduation gowns. Senior girls are required to wear dresses or skirts which come down to the knee underneath their graduation gowns. Dress shoes are required.

SPIRIT DAYS & DRESS DOWN DAYS ATTIRE

Students participating in Spirit Day may be out of dress code if they are wearing a **top** that has “Providence” or “Celtics” on it. Spirit clothing cannot be homemade (i.e., “Celtics” spray painted on a T-shirt). The clothing must be worn, not tied on, and showing, not underneath another article of clothing. Items purchased at school athletic competitions not hosted by PCHS are not acceptable. Hats are not allowed. Athletic shoes may be worn, but flip flops and slides are not allowed. Toes must be covered at all times.

Clothing may not be torn or have holes. Shirts must have sleeves, may not be low cut, worn off the shoulder, or expose the midriff. No yoga pants or excessively tight pants may be worn. Shorts may not be shorter than the tip of your fingers in length. No drug or alcohol references on clothing is allowed.

During Harvest Drive, shirts may only be purchased from PCHS or be homemade. If there is a themed dress down day, any student not dressed in the theme must be in **spirit wear**.

SCHOOL SAFETY

INTRUDER

A.L.I.C.E. is a proactive, option-based program, intended to heighten student survival in the event of a violent intruder incident at school. Traditionally, in the event of a violent intruder, schools have trained students to huddle together behind locked classroom doors and to wait for first responders to arrive to neutralize the threat. However, research now suggests that while this strategy is effective when the threat is OUTSIDE the school building, it is relatively ineffective when the individual(s) posing the threat have gained access to the INSIDE of the school. This is especially true when you consider that 60% of these types of situations are over before law enforcement even arrives at the scene.

A.L.I.C.E. relies upon the communication of real-time information, allowing teachers and students to make the best decisions possible. For example, if we communicate an intruder is present in a hallway located on the far-east side of the school, students and teachers assigned to classrooms on the west side, and perhaps even for those located in main hallway may EVACUATE the school. Once outside, students will be directed to leave school properties and to find safe shelter. Once the police have secured the building and the intruder(s) no longer pose a threat, students will be asked to walk to a reunification spot, a designated area where students will be reunited with their classmates and parents. Teachers and students located closer to the intruder will not position themselves behind a locked door. They will barricade the door using desks, file cabinets, wardrobe closets, and other furniture and equipment found in the room. Finally, students will prepare to COUNTER by throwing projectiles (i.e. textbooks, shoes, staplers, etc.) to distract and to interrupt the intentions of the intruder, until first responders arrive.

Our faculty and staff have already been trained in A.L.I.C.E. and they will play an integral role in training our students. In the aftermath of this training, many teachers commented feeling empowered by A.L.I.C.E. Obviously, A.L.I.C.E. is not a solution to school violence. A single cure-all does not exist. The program does equip students and teachers with skills to increase survivability. We pray that we never have to deploy these skills. A.L.I.C.E. has been adopted by the United States Department of Education and mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education.