



Fairchild Wheeler Interdistrict Magnet Campus

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203-275-2926

To: Fairchild Wheeler Parents/Guardians/Students

From: John Curtis, Victor Black, Michael Watson, Joseph Lipp

Date: July 10, 2013

Re: Bridgeport Board of Education Public School Uniform Policy/Wheeler Campus

We hope that you are continuing to enjoy your summer as we are preparing to open one of the most uniquely and technologically based high school complexes in the country. With that, we thank you for your confidence and support in allowing us to provide your child(ren) the ideal high school environment for learning and achievement.

Along with the concept of being a 'unique' campus for learning, goes an expectation of all students to contribute in their unique but collective ways to the development of that community's culture for learning. One of those ways is through personal appearance and the business environment's adage of "dress for success."

In the 2011-2012 school year, the Bridgeport Public Schools established a uniform policy for all students. The policy is basic and introduces/supports a "business casual" philosophy. That policy is part of the district's Student Code of Conduct manual and reads as follows:

All students in grades PK-12 will wear mandatory uniforms every school day. Any student transferring into the Bridgeport School District from another school district during the course of the school year will be allowed a seven (7) day grace period during which students will not be disciplined for failing to wear the mandatory uniform. The mandatory school uniform includes:

- **Pants:** Dress or Docker style pants worn with a belt at the waist; specific colors of the uniform pants will be determined by the specific school.
- **Skirts, Jumpers or Skorts:** Should be knee level or longer. Blouses or polo shirts must be worn under the jumper.
- **Shorts:** Knee length or Docker style shorts must be worn with a belt. Shorts may only be worn between April 1 and November 1.
- **Shirts:** White plain collared polo shirt or dress shirt (long or short sleeve). Additional colors, representative of the individual Bridgeport school students attend, will also be acceptable. Shirts should be tucked into pants.
- **Sweatshirt/Sweaters:** Pullover, zippered or cardigan, in solid colors specific to the school, without patterns, hoods, decorations or wording. A vest or blazer in the color representative of the individual Bridgeport school will also be permitted.

- **Shoes/Sneakers:** Shoes are strongly recommended over sneakers. In addition to shoes, white or black sneakers are permitted and appropriate every-day boots. Laces on shoes, sneakers or boots must be tied.
- **Physical Education Day Attire:** Students may wear sweat pants/shirts to school on scheduled physical education days. School-approved tee shirts and shorts are permitted. Colors of physical education attire will be chosen by individual schools.

All Wheeler Campus students are expected to comply with the district's policy with one addition. The policy references that 'colors' are to be determined by the school administration. The Wheeler Campus colors will be defined by wearing a professional lab coat while on campus. Each school's principal has selected a 'color' for his school that represents the instructional theme and clearly delivers a 'professional' appearance contributing to the 'learning' culture. Those colors are:

Information Technology: Dark Blue
Zoology/Biotechnology: White
Aero/Hydrospace Engineering: Lt. Blue

Additionally, each lab coat will display a patch symbolic of the Wheeler Campus. These lab coats are currently being quoted for us and availability as to purchase is still being determined. The selected vendor, scheduling for sizing and cost will be posted on our website as soon as it is available at www.fairchildwheeler.org.

Based on its use in other learning environments, we believe that the choice of a lab coat as the school's uniform colors will also contribute to Wheeler's business-like community and, in addition, impose the least amount of financial burden on the family. The lab coat, if cared for, can last several years.

In closing, thank you again for choosing the Fairchild Wheeler Campus schools and should you have any additional questions, please contact the office at 203-275-2926.