

Dress Code Guidelines

All School (PreK–Grade 12)

2025-2026



General Appearance Guidelines

Below are the general guidelines for appearance at Maranatha. Staff and administration reserve the right to make the determination if a student is within given standards.

- Neatness, cleanliness, modesty, and appropriateness should always be observed. Clothing should completely cover undergarments and necessary body parts at all times.
- Clothing and accessories should not draw undue attention or contain expressions, sayings, or slogans that do not align with a biblical worldview.
- No hoods, hats, caps, durags, wave caps, hair coverings, scarves, athletic sleeves, or sunglasses worn during the school day.
- No overcoats, outerwear, or any other winter jackets are to be worn during the school day.

Tattoos:

- No visible tattoos for students under 18 (including temporary tattoos).
- In accordance with Minnesota state law, students 18 and older may have visible tattoos that must be tasteful and reflect Maranatha's mission, values, and honor code. Tattoos showing blood, weaponry, or violence must be covered.

Piercings:

- Pierced ears are permitted for girls of any age.
- Girls: high schoolers (9–12) may wear a single, modest nose stud.
- Boys: high schoolers (9–12) may wear a single, solid-colored stud in each ear. No spikes, hoops, or designs are permitted. For boys in PreK–8; ear studs, earrings, or other visible piercings are not allowed any time, including out-of-dress-code days.
- No other body piercings are allowed.

Hair:

- No unnaturally colored hair or extreme hairstyles.
- Girls: hair accessories should not distract from learning (e.g., animal ears, pom poms, colored braids, hair tinsel).
- Boys: hair and facial hair must be neatly kept. No hair accessories.

Makeup:

- No face paint is allowed.
- Girls: lower school (PreK–4) girls are not permitted to wear makeup at school or on field trips. This includes tinted lip balm or lip balm with glitter.
- Boys: makeup of any kind is not allowed. Nails are not to be painted.

MCA-Branded Tops

All tops must be unaltered MCA-branded attire that are red, navy, white, grey, or black with the MCA or Athletics logo on the front are approved for Monday–Friday. All layers, except outdoor jackets, must be MCA-branded shirts or sweatshirts (e.g., if a sweatshirt is removed during the day, the T-shirt underneath must be MCA-branded).



Restrictions on tops

- **NO** altered (e.g., neckline or sleeves cut outside of the original design) or homemade tops.
- **NO** exposed midriff or back at any time even when sitting, reaching, or bending.
- **NO** non-MCA branded items worn on M–Th (e.g., co-op sports, non-branded MCA club shirts). While we recognize these co-op sports as part of the student experience, they do not contain MCA logos and are confined to Spirit Wear Fridays.
- **NO** wearing hoods during school day.
- **NO** cardigans, full-zip sweatshirts (including MCA-branded sports team warm-ups), overcoats, outerwear (MCA branded or not), or any other winter jackets are to be worn during the school day.

Accepted Colors for Pants, Skirts, and Dresses

Pants and Shorts

- Navy Blue 
- Black 
- Khaki 
- Grey 
- Maroon 
- Forest Green 

Shoes

- Any color and pattern
(must not be distracting or inappropriate)

Ties, Belts, and Socks

- Any color and pattern
(must not be distracting or inappropriate)

Skirts and Dresses

- Shades of black 
- Shades of white
- Shades of grey 
- Shades of blue 
- Shades of red 
- Shades of yellow 
- Shades of green 
- Shades of pink 
- Shades of purple 
- Shades of brown 
- Shades of orange 

Color restrictions

- **NO** color blocking, stripes, or contrasting colored trim.
- **NO** neon colors in any shade.

Pants and Shorts

- Solid-colored, loose-fitting cotton, twill, chino, corduroy, dress pants, and cinched bottom pants, including joggers.
- Colored denim is acceptable in the colors outlined on the previous page.
- Capri pants are acceptable (girls only).
- Elastic waist and cargo pockets are acceptable.



Restrictions on bottoms

- **NO** shorts shorter than 3" above the knee.
- **NO** velvet, velour, or spandex fabrics.
- **NO** blue jeans, sweatpants, fleece, terry, yoga, loungewear, pajama pants of any style (baggy or tight).
- **NO** tears, rips, holes, frays, or unsewn hemlines.
- **NO** tight-fitting pants, regardless of their style or label. This includes but is not limited to; yoga pants, leggings, jeggings, "skinny pants", and all form-fitting joggers.

Skirts and Dresses

Skirts (Pk – 12) and Dresses (Pk – 4th only) may be worn according to the following guidelines:

- Solid-colored A-line, full, straight, or pleated styled skirts
- Length must be no shorter than 3” above the knee.
- Logos 2” or under and singular are permitted.

Lower School (PreK–4) Only:

- T-shirt, polo, sweater, bib overall styled dresses allowed.
- Solid-colored biker shorts, leggings, or tights must be worn under for recess modesty.



Lower School Dresses:



Restrictions on skirts and dresses:

- **NO** tank top or spaghetti strapped dresses without a solid-colored T-shirt underneath.
- **NO** spandex fabrics or ill-fitting skirts/dresses.
- **NO** dresses allowed for upper school (5–12) girls.
- **NO** skirts/dresses that are shorter than 3” from the knee.
- **NO** biker shorts or leggings without a skirt/dress covering.

Shoes

Approved Shoes

- Athletic shoes, boots, or sandals of any color(s) are acceptable.
- Logos of any size are permitted.
- Items should be in appropriate condition for school environment.



Restrictions on shoes

- **NO** ill-fitting shoes.
- **NO** excessive heels or platforms over 2”.
- **NO** winter boots worn during the school day (Ugg style boots are acceptable).
- **NO** HEELYS with the wheels still attached.
- **PreK–4:** sneakers **ONLY** for safety at Recess.

Spirit Wear Fridays

Every Friday, students may wear any MCA spirit wear top. If students choose not to wear spirit wear, they are expected to be in M–Th Dress Code/MCA-branded attire.

- Specific MCA club, summer program, or activity tops are allowed.
- The MCA top, with graphics, must be visible throughout the school day.
- Athletic co-op spirit wear tops are allowed on Spirit Wear Fridays only (e.g., Providence Football).
- College-wear including Bethel attire.
- May wear well-fitting blue jeans, solid-colored sweatpants, or shorts that meet the following requirements:
 - must be modest and loose-fitting (no tight pants).
 - shorts length must be consistent with the dress code.



Restrictions on Spirit Wear Fridays

- **NO** altered (e.g., neckline or sleeves cut outside of the original design) or homemade spirit wear tops, face paints, hair dye, or pom-poms in hair.
- **NO** cardigans, full-zip sweatshirts (including MCA-branded or co-op sports team warm-ups), overcoats, outerwear, or any other winter jackets are to be worn during the school day.
- **NO** hoods, hats, caps, durags, wave caps, hair coverings, scarves, athletic sleeves, sunglasses, worn during the school day.
- **NO** out-of-dress-code pants without a **visible** MCA-branded top.
- **NO** ill-fitting, form-fitting, or skin-tight pants of any style (e.g., leggings, jeggings, or yoga styled pants).
- **NO** athletic jerseys worn during any school day. These are reserved for game play only per the MCA Athletics Department.

College Wear Days

- The first Wednesday of each month, upper school (5–12) students are encouraged to wear spirit wear tops from their potential, committed, or current college.
- Students in the Associate of Arts Degree program (AA) may wear Bethel's spirit wear tops on this first Wednesday of each month as well as on Spirit Wear Fridays.
- Seniors may wear their committed college's spirit wear tops on the first Wednesday of each month and Spirit Wear Fridays only.
- Standard dress code bottoms must be worn on College Wear Days.



Restrictions on College Wear Days

- **NO** altered (e.g., neckline or sleeves cut outside of the original design) or homemade spirit wear tops, face paints, hair dye, or pom-poms in hair.
- **NO** cardigans, full-zip sweatshirts (including MCA-branded or co-op sports team warm-ups), overcoats, outerwear, or any other winter jackets are to be worn during the school day.
- **NO** hoods, hats, caps, durags, wave caps, hair coverings, scarves, athletic sleeves, sunglasses, worn during the school day.
- **NO** out-of-dress code bottoms.

Branding Guidelines for Club Apparel

MCA official club apparel (e.g., Robotics, Black History Month, Student Council, NJHS/NHS) and special theme shirts (e.g., Homecoming, Spring Splash, summer programming) may be designed by student-run groups. **All designs must be approved by the Advancement Department.**

The following guidelines apply:

- Apparel that follows MCA's branding guidelines below may be worn Monday–Friday.
- Apparel that does not follow provided guidelines will be limited to Spirit Wear Fridays only.

MCA Branding Guidelines for M–F approval:

Shirt/Sweatshirt colors (must be solid colors)



Clubs designing shirts must contain the Current logos **on the front of the shirt** (contact the Marketing Department for official logo files). Designs that do not include an official logo mark should include the school's name (Maranatha Christian Academy) on the front of the shirt. **Note: this is for official MCA clubs. MCA does not approve of individual students/families making their own dress code shirts.**



All other club designs that would like to follow a color scheme outside of the branding guidelines above (eg. Pink, purple, brown etc) are acceptable but limited to Spirit Wear Fridays only.