



"Dress in Our School" October 2019

As the weather begins its annual turn cooler, now is a good time to review some of the guidelines regarding student attire at Messiah. You can find this topic outlined on pages 11-13 of the *School Handbook* from which the subsequent quotes are taken. These guidelines have been developed over the years by the staff and Board of Education "as an aid to families."

We realize that children are in their "growing" years. It may seem that just as soon as you get them in some rightsized clothes, they have grown out of them. As adjusting to the seasonal wardrobe begins, here are some reminders that we would like you to consider while preparing your children for school.

- Please check over what your children are wearing **EVERY DAY**.
 - Lately, some children have worn the same clothes for two and three days in a row!
 - Some clothes were too tight a month or two ago! It is very noticeable!
 - We are seeing more skin in places we shouldn't!
- The following items are considered **inappropriate attire at Messiah** as outlined in the handbook:
 - Ragged, frayed, tight-fitting pants/jeans with any kind of holes or rips in them
 - Loose-fitting jeans/shorts that expose underwear
 - Stretch-type, tight clothing worn as outer wear (we include leggings in this definition)
- As feet continue to grow, please remember:
 - **Indoor shoes** are to be soft-soled, tie shoes only worn indoors
 - **Outdoor shoes** should be tennis shoes (for running, climbing, etc.)
 - This means **high-heels, cowboy boots, slides, slippers, etc., are not allowed** and may not be worn inside or outside. This is important especially when we consider fire drills and other school safety concerns.
- While it may be "fashionable and cute" to wear **various necklaces, hair pieces, or pieces of jewelry**, we must make sure that these "fashionable and cute items" are not distracting both the individual wearing them and/or others from why they are here – to learn.



- **Winter is coming!** Here are some additional reminders regarding winter dress:
- Students **MUST HAVE and WEAR JACKETS** when the temperature is below **60 degrees**
 - Students **MUST HAVE EARS COVERED (HATS) AND MITTENS/GLOVES** when the air temperature is below 45 degrees
 - When it snows, children
 - Will only be allowed onto the CLEAR/DRY parking lot if they have outdoor shoes (see above).
 - May go off the parking lot if they are wearing some type of **BOOTS and are wearing SNOWSUITS.**
 - Should we be “blessed” with snow this year, sending along an **extra pair of socks** and **removing any wet socks/clothing** from backpacks NIGHTLY are great ideas.

A healthy, nutritious breakfast along with a wholesome, energetic lunch will help children (and adults) have a great day. How we dress affects attention spans as well as study habits. As our partnership in the nurturing and educating of children continues, may we together maintain an atmosphere which is positive, exciting, and appropriate for all.