

## Dean of Students – *Ms. Stacey Carr*

The Parent Student Handbook, pages 36-37, ***The Spirit of Cardinal Attire and Appearance*** set forth school policies for both casual and professional dress and grooming. In considering dress and in adhering to our school dress standards, the school hopes to facilitate growth of students in the area of respect, one of our school's Core Values.

Often, dress code violations are the result of a student either a) ignoring what they know to be a school requirement or b) failing to prepare for the school day in terms of having appropriate and clean dress available. Students are spoken to about the reality that success in a professional work place is, in fact, dependent upon understanding, preparing for, and complying with expected norms including appearance (grooming) and dress. Part of our responsibility is assisting students in preparing for life beyond Bishop Diego High School.

At other times, issues with attire are not an intentional flaunting of the dress code or grooming policy but, rather, result from a student simply failing to understand and/or appreciate that a particular location (such as our campus) or event requires different or heightened awareness of what is expected in terms of dress. Faculty may encounter this in circumstances where dress is "borderline" or, as in the case of semi-formal dress days, when appearance is particularly valued. In those circumstances, discussions are modeled with compassion in taking the time to explain the reason for our concern regarding the attire, acknowledging that what might be appropriate outside of the school or event is not appropriate within the school or event context. This is especially true when dealing with new students.

In discussing the school's expectations on grooming and dress with your child, discussion and reflection may be prompted with questions such as these:

1. Have you encountered teens whose dress or appearance was inappropriate, shocking or surprising? What about that dress seemed inappropriate?
2. If you were going to a college admissions interview, describe how you would dress and why?

3. Why do you think some companies or employers require employees to wear uniforms? What is the message they are trying to send and to whom?
4. As a school based in Christian values, should students be expected to dress differently than public school students? Why or why not? Should a visitor to a public and private school be able to see the difference?
5. What judgments do you think people make based upon someone's dress or appearance? Why? Are those judgments accurate? Fair?
6. Do you believe that someone's appearance or dress can be distracting? When?
7. Why do you think the school requires semi-formal dress for Mass?

In addressing dress code and grooming concerns, it is worthwhile to ask students to reflect on, and take ownership, of their ability to control their appearance. It is rare that a student is unable to control their dress or grooming and encouraging them to acknowledge that control and ability to "do better" promotes self-respect. Imposing a consequence, when appropriate, for failing to do so likewise demonstrate to the student that their decision making has meaning.

Some questions you may want to discuss at home include:

1. At what age should a person be expected to make their own decisions regarding the way they dress? Why that age?
2. Can you think of any time(s) when you do not have a choice in the way you dress? Why is that? (i.e. sports teams, special events like marriage, funeral, Ambassador shirt)
3. If a student has repeated issues regarding a dress code requirement, what does it reflect?
4. In our modern society, tattoos and visible piercings are more and more common. Why do you think that is? Why would or should there be a different standard for students in a Catholic school?
5. How can choices you make about the way you dress actually promote your self-respect?

I hope the above example gives you an idea of how the school attempts to address students with respect to conduct issues and breaches of expected norms of community standards here at Bishop.

**Please meet our Cardinal Time Moderators for the 2019-2020 school year.**

Cardinal Time Moderators for the Class of 2023

- Mr. Aijian
- Mr. Ibarra
- Ms. Pool
- Mrs. Sodusta
- Mrs. Winnewisser

Cardinal Time Moderators for the Class of 2022

- Mr. Eggman
- Mrs. Cortina
- Dr. Anderson-Cain
- Mrs. Schroeder
- Ms. Combs

Cardinal Time Moderators for the Class of 2021

- Mr. Stevens
- Ms. Harris
- Mrs. Adam
- Dr. Shafer
- Mrs. Lalumandiere

Cardinal Time Moderators for the Class of 2020

- Mr. Levoff
- Ms. Thorstad
- Mrs. Williams
- Mrs. Hapeman
- Mrs. Raimondi

## **Friendly BDHS Reminders.....**

### **School Parking Lot:**

If you are dropping off your son/daughter please pull to the curb, not the middle of the road, this will help the traffic flow. Keep in mind, first period tardies are unexcused. Students need to be at school in class by 8:20am. **It's highly recommended students arrive by 8:00am** to ensure enough time for your son and/or daughter to get their academic materials from their locker and to lock up with athletic gear in the locker room.

### **Medication and Cold Season:**

With the start of the new school year and the upcoming cold season students may need medications during the school day. A reminder all medications (even for a cold) need to be given to Mrs. Callow in the front office with a note from the parent and/or Doctor. Medications should not be with the student. The student has access to his or her medicine during the day. Also, if your student exhibits flu-like symptoms, with a fever, they should not return to school until 24 hours after the fever has subsided.

### **Student Pictures: September 6, 2019**

The students received a photo packet from Cornerstone Photography in their Religion class on Friday. Please ask them for the packet so you can select your picture options for your student.

***"It's important to surround yourself with people who say, yes, and how can I help you achieve what you want to achieve?"***

Go Cardinals,

Stacey L. Carr, M.Ed.  
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