

BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

DRESS CODE



Since 1963, the dress and grooming code has been a time-honored tradition at Bishop Dwenger High School. Agreement to abide by our code is part of being a BD student. Studies have proven that students have a greater chance of remaining focused during the school day when other factors such as attire are not a competing issue. Since BD has a dress code versus a uniform, it is necessary to place restrictions on clothing. **Our goal is not that every student looks the same, but that students present themselves in a modest fashion.**

PANTS

1. **Color:** Khaki (beige tones)
2. **Style: Dress pants:** Pleats, creases and flared bottoms are acceptable. No cargo, corduroy, skinny, or denim pants. No rivets, drawstrings, oversized or short styles. *Pockets must be inside only.* No external pockets permitted where material is sewn onto the outside of the pants.
3. **Appropriate Wear:** While tight pants may be the current trend, excessively tight pants are not considered modest and, therefore, not appropriate for school. Pants must be worn at the waist.
4. **Pant Legs:** No frayed or hand-cut parts. Pants must be hemmed and worn above the sole of the shoe. (They may not drag on the floor)
5. **Belt:** If the pants have belt loops, a belt is required. Belt must be leather or fabric. Belt must not be of a rope-like style. Belt must not have metal studs or decorations that are inappropriate for a school setting.

SWEATERS

1. Only the BDHS-approved uniform sweater/outer-garments purchased through the school may be worn. No jacket/fleece may be worn except for the approved uniform garments purchased through the school.
2. All apparel must fit appropriately.
3. The BDHS uniform shirt (polo for ladies; dress-shirt and tie for gentlemen) must be worn under the sweater/outer garment at all times and remain visible.

SKIRTS – Ladies

1. **New Tartan:** For the 2020-21 School year, BD will begin the transition from a red/black tartan to the khaki/white/navy tartan (see left) over the course of the next three years. By the 2023-2024 school year, only the khaki/white/navy tartan will be worn. Freshman girls may wear hand-me-downs of the red/black skirt, but will not be permitted to wear them once the 2023-2024 school year arrives.
2. **Vendor:** New skirts will be purchased from Flynn O'Hara (flynohara.com) at a portal made specifically for Bishop Dwenger.
3. The BDHS uniform skirt is the only approved skirt. **Skirt length should not be shorter than 4" above the back crease of the knee.**
4. **Tights:** Skirts must be worn with tights. These tights must be black and **opaque** with no texture or designs. Black tights with the red/black skirt. Navy tights with the new khaki/white/nave skirt. Navy tights may be purchased in the spirit shop. **No leggings** may be substituted for tights.

SHIRTS – Ladies

1. **Color:** White, maize (light yellow), navy blue, black, gray, and light blue.
2. **Style:** Ladies must wear the uniform shirt purchased through the school. It may be long or short sleeved. The shirt must not be tight-fitting. If too tight, a larger shirt will be mandated and ordered. No school-issued shirt is to be altered to give a form-fitting look. The shirt must have two of the three buttons fastened, and cleavage and undergarments may not be visible.
3. Undergarment sleeves may not extend below the uniform shirtsleeves.
4. Shirts must remain tucked in at all times whether standing, sitting, or stretching the arms above the head.

SHIRTS & TIES – Gentlemen

1. **Color:** Solid colored shirts ONLY in approved colors of white, maize (light yellow), navy blue, black, gray, and light blue. A conservative look is desired. Flannel, Hawaiian, and casual print shirts are not allowed.
2. **Style:** Collared, plain or buttoned down (buttons must be buttoned), dress shirt extending down the full-length of the front.
3. **Necktie:** Any professional color or design is appropriate. The tie should not be so extreme as to clash with the dress shirt. A conservative look is desired. The tie is to be tied and tightened to the collar.
4. Shirts must remain **tucked in at all times** whether standing, sitting, or stretching arms above the head. Ties must be worn at all times during the school day except during gym class or unless otherwise specified by the administration.



SHOES

1. **Color:** Solid color, shades of black or brown. No stripes.
2. **Style:** Must be a dress shoe. No athletic style shoes of any kind. No canvas shoes (i.e. TOMS, Vans and Keds) or shoes with a soft rubber sole, **especially those with a wide strip of rubber where the top of the shoe meets the sole.** For safety reasons, heels should not exceed 1 inch and “backless” shoes, sandals, moccasins, or open-toed shoes will not be permitted, especially those with a wide strip of rubber where the top of the shoe meets the sole. All shoes must be tied and pants worn outside the shoes.
3. **Leather boots** may be worn, but should be tied up and the *pant leg must be pulled down over the boot.* No knee-high boots are permitted.

SOCKS

1. **Color:** Solid color of white, maize (light yellow), navy blue, black, gray, and light blue.
2. **Ladies' Style:** With pants, they must be matching and over the ankle. With the skirt, tights must be worn but must be black and **opaque with no texture** or designs.
3. **Gentlemen:** Socks must be worn, matching and visible at all times when dress code is in effect.

PIERCINGS

1. **Ladies:** The number of ear piercings should be conservative.
2. **Gentlemen:** No earrings allowed.
3. **Both Genders:** No other visible body piercing permitted, including but not limited to, nose, eye brows, lips, chin, and tongue.

ACCESSORIES

1. **Ladies & Gentlemen:** Hats or head coverings are not worn inside the building.
2. An **excessive** amount of jewelry or distracting headbands is/are not permitted. Wallet Chains are not permitted

GROOMING

1. **Ladies:** Hair color should not be of extreme colors. Extreme hair ornaments are not permitted.
2. **Gentlemen:** Hair color should not be of extreme colors. Hair must be cut above the shirt collar and part of the ear must be visible at all times. Sideburns should not extend below the lowest part of the ear. No other facial hair is permitted.
3. **Ladies and Gentlemen:** At no time shall a student's appearance be so extreme as to attract attention or create a disturbance.

DEVIATIONS TO THE DRESS CODE

1. **Dress Down Guidelines:** Students are to wear clothing that reflects the high standards of modesty set forth by Bishop Dwenger High School. Students are not permitted to wear: leggings without a top that covers the crotch and backside, backless shoes, sandals, flip flops, slippers, yoga pants, any apparel with inappropriate messages, jeans with rips/tears/holes, skirts or shorts shorter than four inches from the back of the knee, necklines that show **any** cleavage, wording across the buttocks of a garment, sleeveless tops, pajamas, low-riding pants with layers showing beneath, sunglasses, hats and excessively tight “skinny” jeans. **The school reserves the right to determine if a student's attire is appropriate for the dress down day.**
2. **Requests for deviation from Dress Code:**
 - a. **Group** requests (i.e. members of a play, those attending a conference athletic banquet, etc.) must be made to the Administration for dress down or dress up days. These will be forwarded to the appropriate office for approval.
 - b. **Individual** student requests for **medical** dress down must be approved by the Administration, accompany a doctor's/trainer's note and require an identifying lanyard

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

- 1st offense:** Student written up and copy of violation sent home.
2nd offense Student written up, copy of violation sent home, and detention assigned.
3rd offense: Student written up, copy of violation sent home, Saturday school assigned.
4th offense: In-School Suspension.
5th offense: Out-of-School Suspension pending parent meeting; Disciplinary Review Board may be convened.

The administration of BDHS has the right to modify, suspend, alter or supersede dress code policies when it is deemed appropriate. It is impossible to foresee every situation in the dress code and individual adjustment may be needed.