

ARCHBISHOP HANNAN HIGH SCHOOL



Dance Dress Code and Policies

Our goal is to insure a safe and healthy environment that honors the values of our school. These policies emerge from our shared mission in promoting the Catholic Christian values that recognize the dignity and self-worth of all people. Within this setting, dances are viewed as an opportunity for students to socialize in a supervised and safe environment. Student behavior and manner of dress should reflect this guiding principle.

Dress Code

Casual Dances

Age appropriate modesty and taste are the overriding principles in determining dress for the dance. Keeping this in mind, the following dress code must be followed:

Ladies:

- Shorts: Short shorts are not permitted. Hemlines must be no higher than four inches above the top of the knee cap. Capris pants are allowed.
- Jeans: Must be in good taste without holes, frayed ends, patches, etc.
- Skirts: Skirts should be appropriate in length (no shorter than 4 inches above the knee, age-appropriate, fit properly, modest and in good taste.
- Tops: The following are permitted - spaghetti straps with a minimum 1 inch width, and halter tops that fully cover below the natural bra line. Strapless tops and tops with plunging necklines are **not** permitted.
T-shirts are allowed as long as there are no inappropriate logos or writing on them.
- Clothing that exposes a bare midriff is not allowed.
- Sandals and tennis shoes may be worn.

Gentlemen:

- Shorts and jeans (no holes, frayed ends, patches, etc.) are allowed.
- T-shirts are allowed as long as there are no inappropriate logos or writing on them.
- Sandals and tennis shoes are allowed.

Semi Formal

Age appropriate modesty and taste are the overriding principles in determining dress for the dance. Keeping this in mind, the following dress code must be followed:

Ladies

- Dresses are to be semi-formal. Dresses must be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee. Dresses with a slit – the slit cannot be any higher than the three inches above the knee. Dresses are not to have bare midriffs, fit too tightly, or cling to the body. They should not ride up as the student dances.
- Backless dresses may not be cut below the natural bra line.
- All necklines must be modest and in good taste. Dresses with plunging necklines are not permitted.
- Dresses may have spaghetti straps, halter type tops, cold shoulder, or strapless as long as they meet the neckline requirement.
- Dresses that are laced together in the front cannot reveal bare skin under the lacing.

- Dresses with sheer panels or cut outs are not allowed.

Gentlemen

- Dress pants (no sagging/baggy pants) are required. The difference between dress pants and jeans is that in a dress pant there is no external stitching or grommets.
- Dress shirts and dress shoes are required.
- Gentlemen must wear a tie and keep it on the entire evening
- A jacket is optional.
- Shirts must be worn and tucked in entire dance. Any boy removing his shirt will be asked to leave the dance (parents will be called).
- Hats cannot be worn at any time during the dance.

Formal Dance (Prom)

Age appropriate modesty and taste are the overriding principles in determining dress for the dance. Keeping this in mind, the following dress code must be followed:

Ladies:

- Dresses are to be formal or semi-formal.
- Skirts and dresses must be no more than four inches above the top of the kneecap. If the dress has a slit, the slit cannot be any higher than three inches above the knee.
- Dresses are not to have bare midriffs, fit too tight, or cling to the body. They should not ride up as a student dances.
- Backless dresses may not be cut below the natural bra line.
- All necklines must be modest and in good taste. Dresses with plunging necklines are not permitted.
- Dresses may have spaghetti straps, halter type tops, cold shoulder, or strapless as long as they meet the neckline requirement.
- Dresses that are laced together in the front cannot reveal bare skin under the lacing.
- Dresses with sheer panels or cut outs are not allowed.

Gentlemen:

- Tuxedos or dress suits are required.
- Tuxedos and suits cannot have any logo or design other than normal material patterns, i.e. stripes or plaids.
- No “zoot suit” canes or chains are allowed.
- Pants cannot be too big or sagging (belt or suspenders must be worn)
- Gentlemen must wear a tie.
- Dress shoes are required.
- Shirts must be worn the entire dance. Anyone removing his shirt will be referred for disciplinary action.
- Generally speaking, hats are not allowed. However, if the hat is a part of the formal attire, check with the Dean of Discipline BEFORE the event to see if it is appropriate to wear to prom.

If students have any doubt about the appropriateness of their attire, they should ask a school administrator ahead of the event rather than be placed in the embarrassing situation of being turned away at the door.

Expected Behavior at School Dances

1. Students/guests must arrive by XX p.m. and may leave after 10:00 p.m. However, once a student leaves, he/she may not re-enter. All dances end by 11 p.m.
2. Guests must fill out the guest form and turn it in to the Front Office a day before the dance. Guest forms may be found online or at the Front Office.
3. An Archbishop Hannan student may bring only one guest from another high school.
4. School personnel may inspect large jackets, purses, and backpacks before admitting a student to the dance. Students are encouraged to leave purses and backpacks at home as the school cannot monitor them during the dance. Students bring valuables at their own risk.
5. Upon reasonable suspicion the Administration will administer a breathalyzer to the student in order to determine if the student is under the influence of alcohol.
6. For the duration of the dance, students will be expected to be mindful of the principles that guide Archbishop Hannan High School's dress code.
7. All dance styles must comply with standards of Christian morality, standards that include modesty and safety. School personnel will be the final judge of the appropriateness of dance style. School personnel will confront any student behavior or dancing deemed inappropriate. Inappropriate dancing includes, but is not limited to, the following: slam dancing, grinding, break-dancing, moshing, "freaking", suggestive, or otherwise inappropriate or dangerous dancing.
8. All aspects of the Archbishop Hannan Substance Abuse policy are in effect at dances.
9. Students violating any of these rules may have their parents phoned and may be asked to leave the dance. Students who are in violation of school policies will also be subject to school disciplinary procedures up to and including expulsion.
10. In the event of any violation of these regulations or any other behavior deemed inappropriate, the Principal of the guests school will be notified of the incident.
11. Please note that Archbishop Hannan may modify the dress requirements for a theme dance or formal. In such circumstances, the school will provide clear instructions regarding the expectations for a particular dance.

Guest Policy

1. All guests of Archbishop Hannan students must be registered and approved by the Administration. A Dance Guest form is available online or at the front desk. To be placed on a guest list, guests must be approved by the Dean of Discipline at least 24 hours before the dance.
2. Guests must be under 20 years of age.
3. Students who have been expelled, or who are currently on suspension from Archbishop Hannan High School, will not be allowed to attend dances.
4. Archbishop Hannan administration will contact other school administrators seeking guest approval.