## UNIFORM/DRESS CODE GUIDELINES

## \*\* We expect cheerful, consistent commitment to the dress code policy from all students, parents, and staff. This is designed to promote our focus on academics and group solidarity. \*\*

UNDERCLOTHING Always worn, never seen

SOCKS/TIGHTS	<ul> <li>Leggings may not be worn in place of slacks, but may be worn under skirts</li> <li>Bold/bright/patterned socks/tights are acceptable</li> <li>No unwholesome phrases/visuals</li> </ul>
TOPS/SHIRTS	<ul> <li>Polos must be long enough to be tucked, but do not need to be tucked. Oxford and dress shirts must be tucked in</li> <li>Solid colors (red, white, navy blue, black)</li> <li>Polo, oxford shirts; cardigans, turtle/mock turtle necks, sweater vests, sweater hoodies (see Gap/Old Navy/Child's Place for uniform tops)</li> <li>Merit Academy hoodies</li> <li>Local club or team hoodies or polos for whom the Merit student participates are permitted on the day of/before (if on a weekend) an event</li> </ul>
PANTS/SHORTS	<ul> <li>Must fit the student (not overly tight, not overly baggy)</li> <li>Longer than fingertip length</li> <li>Khakis and slacks</li> <li>Solid colors (red, navy blue, black, khaki/tan, gray)</li> <li>Jeans (darker color, black or solid color blue denims are acceptable)</li> <li>Not acceptable: <ul> <li>Sweatpants/athletic wear (can be worn for PE)</li> <li>Leggings, unless worn under skirt, see socks/tights for guidelines</li> <li>No pants/shorts with holes, rips, frays, decorations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
SKIRTS/SKORTS/ DRESSES	<ul> <li>Hem must be longer than fingertip length</li> <li>Solid colors (red, navy blue, black, khaki/tan, gray)</li> <li>Cartwheel/bike shorts, leggings, tights to be worn under shorter (fingertip length) skirts/dresses</li> <li>Dresses must be polo-type or sweater dresses, except on special occasion. No strapless, spaghetti strap dresses. Must adhere to above guidelines, colors, etc.</li> </ul>
SHOES	<ul> <li>No shoes with wheels</li> <li>No flipflops</li> <li>Snowboots permitted, but must be worn only when outside (recess, lunch, etc.) Please bring indoor shoes to wear during winter months</li> <li>Heels must be 2" or less</li> </ul>

PE: students may wear t-shirts, as long as those shirts fit properly and do not have offensive, unwholesome messaging. Shorts must be at least fingertip length. Shoes must be non-marking and appropriate for running.

## Example approved uniform clothing (not all inclusive, but for ideas):

