



Attendance

The mission statement of the Catholic Schools of Fairbanks is, "The Catholic Schools of Fairbanks is a pre-K through 12 family that engages the world through the integration of knowledge and wisdom. We are guided by the Jesuit principles to become Open to Growth, Intellectually Competent, Religious, Loving, and Committed to Doing Justice." In service of that mission, we believe all students can learn, achieve, and succeed with the team effort of student motivation, parent support, and teacher guidance. This belief in a team approach to education requires that students be present in the classroom in order to learn best. Additionally, there are legal and regulatory requirements from the state.

According to policy set by the school board, a student is considered **excessively absent** if they have missed **seven** or more days of school **in any class** in one semester. If a student misses more than **ten days** in any class in one semester, **academic credit will be withheld** for that class unless the absence was pre-approved by the administration. Academic credit may be re-instated upon appeal to the administration with documentation showing just cause. School sponsored events will not count against these absence limits.

Vacations are not a valid justification for exceeding the ten day limit. In the event of a prolonged absence of five or more days the principal and classroom teachers must be informed in writing of the absence at least one week in advance. Students are responsible for any work missed and parents are responsible for student learning during this absence, and for making sure that students turn in completed work on the day they return.

Dress code

In preparing students for professional life, the school has an obligation to guide students into acceptable dress and grooming. From the school handbook, "Although dress and grooming are a means of expressing individuality and self-respect, students must realize that they are also responsible to the school community for their appearance and cleanliness. Clothing or grooming that detracts from the dignity of the students and the purpose of the school will not be permitted."

The board policies regarding dress code are detailed on [pages 16 and 17](#) of the school handbook. Please refer to those pages for a detailed accounting of those policies. Below, we have highlighted a few specifics.

- Clothing must be clean, not torn or frayed, and appropriately fitting (jeans are included in this category). Clothing may not depict inappropriate designs, captions, pictures or logos, such as those that promote alcohol, drugs, violence or sexual activity.
- Leggings are not allowed as pants. If they are worn under a dress, the dress must be of appropriate length.
- Hats, bandanas, headbands, sunglasses, etc. are not to be worn in the building.
- Students may not wear body piercings (exception: pierced ears are allowed) (nose piercings are not allowed).
- Hair is to be clean, groomed, out of the eyes; hair may not be spiked or dyed unnatural colors.
- Pants must be of appropriate fit, come above the hipbone and be worn there. Pants must be hemmed. Athletic pants, sweats or athletic shorts, yoga pants, military pants, pajama pants, wide or baggy pants are not allowed.
- As an alternative to the above, female students may wear skirts with an approved top. Skirts and dresses should be to the knee or longer when standing up straight. Skirts and dresses should not be excessively tight. Dress necklines must not reveal cleavage.

As part of the collaborative educational team, parents are expected to help administration enforce these policies and to educate students on proper attire for school. Students who violate the dress code policies as stated in the handbook will face disciplinary action. If the problem cannot be addressed immediately, parents will be called and asked to bring in a change of clothing.

Thank you for helping us to educate the student about these policies, helping us to minimize confusion and disciplinary issues throughout the course of the year.