

Dress Code Suggestions

Prepared by Concerned Alumni of The Academy

The following are dress code suggestions submitted by various alumni:

1. Blazers and ties must be worn by all students every day, just like the prep schools on TV.

I remember going to the Philadelphia Museum of Art in my dress uniform during my Lower School days. Other schoolchildren stared and pointed at us in what I assume was a reverent awe. Imagine if our students were this impressive *every day*.

2. American Civil War Uniforms

This was suggested by an anonymous member of the Upper School History Department. This member noted that in order to give a more complete community image, the faculty should be required to wear the uniforms as well.

If extended to include the Lower School, Field Day colors would be replaced with Union and Confederacy teams. While families traditionally all wear the same color, siblings living in border townships may be split up.

3. Café B Shirts

Honestly, why hasn't anyone built a "Café B" in the Student Center yet? Students could wear the polo on this page: <http://www.cafepress.com/cafeb>

4. Powdered Wigs

You may not have heard about this before, but during the Yellow Fever epidemic, George Washington held cabinet meetings at The Academy. Also of note, George Washington's adopted son, George Washington Parke Custis, attended The Academy. Let us honor the Washington connection.

5. Sponsored By...



Corporate sponsorship in schools is a controversial issue, but I believe that the benefits outweigh the risks. The dress code could become a fundraising opportunity for the Academy by requiring students to wear official GA polo shirts. The front of the shirt will be very conservative, with a simple and small GA logo.

The back of the shirt includes the school seal, reminding students that *by persevering, we shall see the fruits*. Also on the back will be tastefully placed logos of businesses sponsoring The Academy for the academic year. In return for printing their logo on our uniforms, the businesses will donate money, products, or services to The Academy. For example, Comcast could provide free cable and other educational media equipment. Apple could put a free computer in every room and an iPod on every student. Pepsi could donate cash, Pepsi fountains, or host a Britney Spears concert in the Arts Center. The possibilities are endless.



6. From Those Who Know

If The Academy's Middle School and Upper School should decide to make the switch from a "dress code" to a full uniform, appropriate research must be conducted. One of the best ways to learn about uniforms is by examining systems already in place. A random telephone survey of Germantown Academy's Lower School students was conducted, asking what they liked about their current uniforms, and what could be changed. After compiling the results, it was revealed that most students wouldn't mind dressing "like ninjas."