

Maranatha Christian High School Dance

Women's Formal Attire Guidelines

The school expects that parents will take responsibility for the attire worn by their child to all school events. The approval process, therefore, begins in the home. Traditional interpretations of modesty are often at odds with fashion and cultural trends. Romans 12:2 informs us, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Clothing should reflect the formality of the occasion, more like what you might wear to a wedding ceremony than to a nightclub. With that in mind, a group of students and parents, along with the school administration, have worked together (2023) to identify the following guidelines.

MCS Female Students and Approved Female Visitors - Generally, if it is too short, too tight, or too low (front or back), it is not going to be acceptable.

- Dress length may be no shorter than the fingertips when arms are fully extended at the sides; side or front slits must conform to the same standards for dress length - no higher than the fingertips with arms extended
- Plunging necklines, backs, and sides are prohibited, as each creates more exposure than allowed by our modesty standards - backs may not be lower than the elbow and "side cleavage" should be covered
- Cutouts or transparent materials exposing the midriff or cleavage are not permissible - stomachs must be covered, and as much as possible, cleavage should not be visible
- Tight/form fitting dresses are acceptable IF the body is substantially covered, and the dress meets the aforementioned guidelines. Any form fitting dress must cover the body more versus less

Consequences for Non-Compliance

- In cases of violation, the student will be provided with the opportunity to come into compliance; if unable to comply they will be discreetly asked to leave
- Students who are not in compliance will be required to obtain administrative approval for future formals, which will include submitting photos to demonstrate compliance
- For non-compliant Seniors attending their last dance, community service projects will be identified and must be completed prior to attending any Senior/graduation activities

The Process of Approval for Females:

- Parents are responsible for ensuring their child’s attire conforms to our standards
- Parents must complete the following checklist and submit their signed acknowledgement form of compliance via a parent email address
- If you are unsure if your attire is appropriate, please confer with the Student Life Coordinator, or other designated school official to answer any questions

DRESS APPROVAL CHECKLIST

This form must be submitted one week prior to the event.
Submit signed form from parent email to formalattire@gomcs1.com.

- Dress length is no shorter than fingertips with arms fully extended at sides
- Side or front slits run no higher than the fingertips with arms fully extended at the sides
- As much as possible, necklines do not expose cleavage
- Dress backs may not be lower than the elbow and designed in such manner as to cover “side cleavage”
- Cutouts or transparent materials do not inappropriately expose cleavage or show the midriff
- If wearing form fitting dresses, the body is otherwise substantially covered
- Dressing Room/At Home Test - Dances are not static events - the students dance/jump. The student has tested how the dress adjusts with movement and modesty standards are not compromised

Student Acknowledgement of Compliance

Date

Parent Acknowledgement of Compliance

Date