

## Memorandum of Agreement & Handbook

The decision to establish a Chesterton Academy in your community marks the beginning of a great adventure. You and your co-founders are joining a pivotal movement of the laity to restore and preserve Catholic classical education for our children and future generations. The Chesterton Schools Network (CSN) is your dedicated partner and ally in this endeavor. To benefit from our collective knowledge and resources, your Board of Directors, Faculty, and staff agree to uphold the mission, principles, and practices that define a Chesterton Academy. This includes having affordable tuition, Daily Mass, and fidelity to the curriculum exercised in a spirit of cooperation.

### **Table of Contents**

I.	MEMBER BENEFITS				
II.	HALLMARKS OF A CHESTERTON ACADEMY	3			
	A. An Incarnational Learning Environment				
	B. A Focus on Truth, Goodness, and Beauty  C. A Joyful Learning Environment				
	D. Rediscovering the Lost Tools of Learning				
	E. The Socratic Seminar				
	F. The Wit and Wisdom of G.K.Chesterton				
III.	THE TEACHER	_			
111.	THE TEACHER	3			
IV.	POLICY ON CURRICULUM ADHERENCE	6			
V.	BRAND AND MARKETING STANDARDS	7			
VI.	SCHOOL UNIFORM	7			
VII.	HOUSE SYSTEM	8			
VIII.	CATHOLIC IDENTITY	8			
IX.	MEMBERSHIP DUES AND PARTICIPATION	9			
APPE	ENDICES				
	Appendix A: Service Level Agreement for Support				
	Appendix B: CSN Payment Fee Schedule				
	Appendix C: CSN Uniform Policy	_			

### I. Member Benefits

As a CSN member school, you are part of a global network of independent schools striving to provide high school youth with opportunities to encounter Christ and the rich heritage of the liberal arts tradition. We commit to bringing all the talent, resources, and prayers at our disposal to equip you in this valiant endeavor. With your membership, you will receive the entire curriculum, supplemental materials, and ongoing updates; monthly support calls for headmasters and administrators; and administrative tool kits including templates, marketing, and branding materials. Additionally, you will receive:

- Invitations to all Network events including the summer conference, pilgrimages, and March for Life gatherings.
- Access to a growing network of educators and administrators whose combined experience provides a wealth of academic and operational best practices for running your school.
- The option to subscribe to our Learning Management System containing all curricular materials and turn-key courses to get your teachers started.
- Access to our video library of courses and instruction to aid your headmasters, administrators, and teachers.
- Monthly Spiritual Seminars to support and encourage you and your school.
- Purchasing power through access to our vendors for books, uniforms, and spirit wear.
- Optional consulting packages available for purchase tailored to your specific needs in marketing, fundraising, recruiting, board governance, or school leadership.

## II. Hallmarks of a Chesterton Academy

The distinctiveness of a Chesterton Academy is most apparent in our six foundational hallmarks. These hallmarks help bring the academic experience to life for our students in an environment where they will thrive. Therefore, it is critical for each school to manifest each hallmark in spirit and practice.

### A. AN INCARNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

From history and theology to math and science, the Incarnation is the central mystery we explore across the entire curriculum. It is our desire that each student will personally experience the Incarnation. Each school shall strive to:

- Encourage each student to encounter Christ in a deeply personal way, both sacramentally and in his or her academic and everyday life.
- Create a pervasively Christian atmosphere filled with opportunities to develop and practice virtue while overcoming tendencies towards vice.
- Build a community of disciples through language, action, and thought by guiding them to contemplate the true, good, and beautiful.

### B. A FOCUS ON TRUTH, GOODNESS, AND BEAUTY

Our classical curriculum combines a broad, liberal arts education with a strong emphasis on the development of Christian virtues and an appreciation of beauty. Each school shall strive to:

- Maintain a strong Fine Arts program comprising Music, Drama, Art, and Rhetoric as a central (rather than marginalized) component of the curriculum.
- Provide a challenging Humanities curriculum, including Philosophy, History, Literature, Foreign Language studies, and Theology to complement the Fine Arts and show the integrated reality of truth, goodness, and beauty.
- Maintain a strong Math and Science curriculum that emphasizes the historical development of these subjects, provides the most up-to-date content, and encourages the students to see how their study integrates with the other subjects as part of the greater picture of knowledge.

### C. A JOYFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

We create environments where students can experience deep community on their path towards discovery, and be encouraged to live out their spiritual life in an atmosphere of joy and freedom. Each school shall strive to:

- Create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students.
- Create a school culture that demands moral virtue, decorum, respect, discipline, and studiousness among the students and faculty.
- Maintain a joyful experience inside and outside the classroom, including sporting activities, lunchroom and hallway conversations, and all extracurricular activities.
- Ensure that teachers lead by example by delighting in their students and encouraging their joyful learning.
- Point students to the Incarnation as the great manifestation of God's love for them and to Jesus, Mary and Joseph as their prime examples of holy lives.

#### D. REDISCOVERING THE LOST TOOLS OF LEARNING

Our curriculum is centered on skills which have been neglected or forgotten in modern education: reading, writing, oral presentation, and the development of critical reasoning through logic and philosophy. Each school shall strive to:

- Develop students of all levels into strong readers, writers, and speakers so as to reflect their growth in critical thinking through the use of Socratic-style seminars.
- Demonstrate to each student the value of developing into a strong reader, a capable writer and an articulate speaker who is unafraid to express wellreasoned ideas.
- Deliver and adhere to the curriculum developed by CSN as closely as possible, understanding that much time and thought have been invested to integrate each subject with the whole for the formation of the next generation.
- Hire well-educated and articulate teachers who explicitly convey real knowledge to students using traditional teaching methods rather than using so-called "student-centered learning" method.
- Use technology effectively but without diminishing the faculty leadership that is crucial to academic success.

#### **E. THE SOCRATIC SEMINAR**

The Socratic seminar is perhaps the oldest educational tool. Through this method, a teacher imparts knowledge through directed questions and guided dialogue, bringing ideas and knowledge to life. Each school shall strive to:

- Engage students in classroom discussions in every class when it is appropriate. Critical thinking skills form when students are encouraged to express their ideas and defend them.
- Encourage teachers to become skilled at guiding and directing students using reason, logic, and philosophy to engage the world around them once they graduate.
- Challenge students' ideas and assumptions in a safe environment; the classroom practicum should develop the intellectual tools needed to engage the world once students graduate.

### F. THE WIT AND WISDOM OF G.K. CHESTERTON

Chesterton exemplified the Catholic faith through his wit, his clarity, his kindness, and his ability to love people with whom he disagreed, while sharing the faith in Christian charity. Each school shall strive to:

- Introduce students to the genius of G.K. Chesterton by joyfully reading and discussing his works.
- Describe the paradoxical nature of Chesterton's thoughts, and his ability to express an idea in a new and vital way.
- Demonstrate the joyful debate as Chesterton engaged in his thought opposers, and yet remained friendly with those who opposed his reasonable conclusions.
- Imitate Chesterton's humility in all things, who as a gigantic genius, still listened attentively to the smallest voice and encouraged all with joy.
- Allow Chesterton's spirit to permeate the school by embodying his joy, laughter, wisdom and humility. To the extent possible, post his images and quotes in classrooms and public spaces so that faculty and students can develop their own friendship with him.

### III. The Teacher

These six hallmarks of a Chesterton Academy inform teacher instruction. In rediscovering the lost tools of learning, for example, "traditional" teaching methods would not normally include group work, because instruction is teacher-directed. In a traditional classical school, teachers possess knowledge, authority, and compassion. These abilities allow for lessons with real weight, classrooms with order and discipline, instruction with purpose and focus. Classes are not meandering and haphazard, but conducted in a charitable business-like manner, understanding that every minute counts. Teachers must take preparation seriously and be watchful in the classroom so that all students participate in instruction, because the teachers recognize the ultimate goal and the project they have undertaken.

Teachers who teach classically take responsibility for student learning in the classroom. They look for student comprehension during instruction rather than simply

transmitting through testing short term memory. They don't simply assume that the students can follow along without direction or support, but they know when and how to include and encourage that student towards the truth.

Chesterton Academy teachers must also see themselves as the vehicle to a student's success. They should immerse themselves in the community and the culture of the school. They are responsible to help foster virtue and help them to become future leaders and good citizens. In essence, a teacher has a big responsibility and should take it willingly and relish in the challenge.

### IV. Policy on Curriculum Adherence

Network schools shall adhere as closely as possible to the Chesterton curriculum published in CSN's designated Learning Management System (currently Chesterton.Online). This is the baseline requirement for Network accreditation. Our curriculum is designed from the ground up to be integrated in scope and sequence across all subjects. It is very important for each school to follow the curriculum as designed, especially the pacing, so that the integration points can be highlighted from class to class and the level of homework is balanced. Although they may be well-intentioned, changes or substitutions to any part of the curriculum are considered a violation of the curriculum policy because such deviations have proven time and again to have an adverse effect on the whole. CSN continuously reviews the curriculum to make sure it is a living, responsive document and if changes are needed, they will be made by CSN's curriculum committee with input from Network headmasters and experienced teachers. \*

Keep in mind that each school in the Chesterton Schools Network has chosen the Chesterton Academy model as the foundation of their school culture, identity, and practice—and with good reason. Our curriculum has been tried and proven. Many alumni throughout our Network have found their vocations and advanced successfully to their next steps in life. Our curriculum forms the whole student, with the view to creating Christ-like disciples as well as lifelong learners. It is a full and well-rounded education steeped in virtue and wisdom. Therefore, schools which deviate from our model endanger not only their students' education but the cohesive identity of our greater community. Finally, fidelity to the curriculum helps schools maximize the resources available to them, such as Faculty support calls and assistance from veteran Network teachers for those who are starting out.

\*After a curriculum change is made, each school will be allowed a grace period of one year for planning before they will be required to implement the changes. This policy applies especially to changes to the book list.

### V. Brand and Marketing Standards

- Naming convention: your school's official name must include Chesterton Academy. Additional monikers may refer to a saint, devotional title, or location.
   E.g. "Chesterton Academy of (Patron)" or "Chesterton Academy of (City Name)
- Your URL should be marketing friendly and be approved by the network.
- You must adhere to the web page look and feel. If you are an existing K-8 school, you must create a separate web page that describes your High School as a Chesterton Academy
- There is a brand package that has been professionally assembled for you. You are required to adhere to all brand standards.
- Your sports program can either be the Saints, Knights, or the Crusaders.
- Spirit wear should follow the brand standards.
- All materials should follow the brand standards.
- All signs should follow the brand standards.

### VI. School Uniforms

The Chesterton Schools Network requires all students to wear uniforms during the school day and at specified school events. See Appendix C for current uniform style and guidelines.

Why do most Catholic schools require uniforms? The tradition goes back to Medieval times when caps and gowns were required at universities. Thus, all students regardless of background dressed alike, and all would show an outward sign of their dedication to the task of learning together within the university community. In other words, from the very beginning, uniforms have been in support of three goals: modesty, professionalism, and community, or school spirit. Our uniform policy aims at the same three goals.

We ask the students to wear the uniform so they look professional. The work that we do at school is part of a student's life that is extraordinary, set apart from the ordinary routines of life. In our Western tradition, we dress up for extraordinary events to show their importance and our respect for those who participate in them with us. We dress up for Mass and for the work day, and we dress up for school. We ask that the uniforms are neat and clean, that cuffs are rolled down and buttoned, that ties are neatly fastened, and that accessories are fitting for a professional environment.

When a student carefully adheres to the uniform code he or she is saying "Yes, I buy in. I am part of this team and I am proud to show it." Particularly for our upperclassmen, this is an aspect of leadership that shows younger students that the right thing at Chesterton Academy is to affirm the importance of citizenship in our community and to bring new students into full membership in that community.

Finally, the Chesterton Academy uniform is an affirmation of our wider Network community. It is an outward sign of our shared identity and commitment to teaching

students the important things for life in this world and the next. Professionalism, modesty, and community are vital elements of that effort.

### VII. House System (Formation, Character, Virtue Plan)

Chesterton Academy draws on the House System to aid in building meaningful relationships between the faculty and students. This thousand-year-old tradition of Christian education is best exemplified in the colleges at Oxford and Cambridge. Our House System anchors the Pillar of character formation by focusing our students on forming habits of virtue, especially the Cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance. These virtues prepare the students to lead their families, communities, and country to Christ.

For the Network, the House System also builds camaraderie and a shared experience between students from different schools. It provides an easy way for students to get to know each other at CSN community events like summer conferences, pilgrimages, and the March for Life. It is also not uncommon for alumni of different Chesterton Academies to meet at college and bond over their shared House affiliation or experiences.

Please see the House System Handbook (Chesterton.Online) for a complete description on how to run this program successfully. The following standards are required by policy:

- The House System must start with all four Houses (Ambrose, Augustine, Athanasius, and Chrysostom). East and West Houses may be combined initially for schools starting with small student bodies (<20 students).
- Each faculty should be involved in the forming and mentoring of students.
- The House names, shields and colors are not negotiable.
- Siblings and families should be assigned to the same House.

### **VIII. Catholic Identity**

Catholicism is central to our mission and identity. For this reason, every school day includes Mass. We teach theology using the Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and papal documents. Other important ways we live the faith include annual pilgrimages and retreats, modest and wholesome extracurricular activities, and the sacred art and crucifixes that adorn the halls and classrooms. Chesterton Academy should strive to make sacred worship feel and appear reverent and beautiful, however we refrain from officially endorsing or requiring a specific style of liturgy.

The following practices should be a regular part of school life in order to maintain and enhance the school's Catholic identity.

- Daily Mass\*
- Weekly opportunities for Adoration
- Retreats, Confession, and Spiritual Formation

- Faith incorporated into every subject
- Chaplains or regular visits from priests and religious

\*Live Mass is always preferred; however, streaming Mass online is an acceptable alternative when access to the Sacrament is limited. The objective is to build a sacramental daily rhythm.

### IX. Membership Dues and Participation

The Chesterton School Network's member school services are available to your school as a paid subscription. As the Network grows, the range and quality of shared services will continue to improve through our collective resources.

The CSN membership fee schedule for sponsored schools is available in Appendix B. This fee provides access to the curriculum, supplemental materials, and ongoing updates; periodic support calls for headmasters and administrators; as well as Spiritual mini-retreats to recharge you and your teachers; and administrative tool kits including templates, marketing, and branding materials. Member fees also help cover the costs of cohort training and ongoing support for schools in the pre-launch phase. Each school is also required to pay an annual trademark license fee. For your ease, you can pay securely online or via check with quarterly or yearly plans. Details for paying online are provided in the fee schedule in Appendix B.

Keep in mind that your participation helps not only your school but all current and future schools in our Network. In this way, we truly manifest the Body of Christ. Therefore, as a member school, you are expected to attend or view recordings of the monthly formation meetings and the CSN annual conference. Additionally, more established schools may be called on to support and mentor upcoming schools. A school's record of Network participation and adherence to all policies in this Handbook will be considered during the CSN formal accreditation review.

### **Appendix A: Service Level Agreement for Support**

The Chesterton Schools Network strives to provide timely and responsive service for the needs of our member schools. With a limited staff size and a growing Network, CSN has prepared the following guidelines to ensure we can maximize our availability to our schools.

- Please utilize your school's assigned Advisor for all questions or requests. Your Advisor will coordinate follow up assistance from our staff or Network as needed.
- Our customer service hours are 10-3 pm Central. Incoming requests outside those hours may not be seen before the next day.
- When contacting CSN with a routine question, please allow 1-2 business days for your response.
- If your request exceeds the space of a 15-minute phone call or email resolution, you will need to arrange a professional consultation. Consultations may be purchased individually, or at the package prices listed below.

HOURS	UNIT COST	5	10	15	20
Cohort Pricing	\$100	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
Current Ops Pricing	\$75	\$375	\$750	\$1,125	\$1,500

Our consultation services provide one or more hours of expert advice and tailored solutions for your school's particular need. Types of consulting services available include teacher training, marketing, fundraising, admissions, hiring/staffing, school discipline, planning a Gala and more.

## **Appendix B: CSN School Payment Fee Schedule**

All CSN Member Schools follow the below plan. Fees are assessed each July and may be paid in an annual lump sum or per a monthly subscription. This includes the annual trademark license.

### **CSN SCHOOL PAYMENT PLAN | 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR**

Annual Payment Plan (check) \$5,400

Monthly Payment Plan (credit card) \$450/month

## **Appendix C: CSN School Uniform Policy**

The Chesterton Schools Network's uniform vendor is Schoolbelles. Uniforms may be purchased online at www.schoolbelles.com or at a local store. Schoolbelles offer great pricing, fast shipping, a loyalty program, layaway, 100% satisfaction guarantee, and all of our items are carried in their regular stock inventory.

The uniform has been standardized to achieve professionalism, ease on schools and parents, as well as price breaks with Schoolbelles. Uniform standards are outlined below. Schools may use their discretion with additional standards and the out-of-uniform policy.

### I. UNIFORM POLICY FOR LADIES

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	SCHOOLBELLES STYLE #
Blazer	Navy w/logo	Required to be worn daily all year.	#5820
V-Neck Sweater	Navy w/logo	The sweater is a finishing item, along with the blazer. On October 15 through May 15, a finishing item is required all day (could be blazer, vest or sweater with blazer). Sweater or vest may be worn year-round.	#1983 - Long sleeve pullover #1964 - Vest
Oxford Shirt	White w/logo	Collar buttons must always be buttoned. The shirt must not gap in front, and there should be no pulling on the buttons. The sleeves may not be rolled at any time.	#1770 - Short sleeve #1771 - Long sleeve
Skirts 9-10 11-12	Print option selection by school	Length required is mid-knee to below-the-knee. If full kneecap is exposed while standing straight, the skirt is too short. Skirts are to be no shorter than the crease of the back of the knee. This usually requires ordering a size Long. The skirt should be worn on the waist and not on the hip. Order at the store, not online. May be special order so shop early. Navy or black bike shorts should be worn under skirt.	#3521 - Two kick pleated #3521 - Two kick pleated
Socks	Navy	Opaque, not cable. Knee highs must reach up to the knee. They should not be at mid-calf or lower.	#1605 Opaque Knee High #1625 Opaque Tight #1621 Pima Knee High

Shoes	Black	Must be a dress shoe, solid black leather dress flats with closed toe and full back. Must be polished and clean. Simple ornamentation allowed (e.g., bow, tassel), no tags/labels/symbols on outside of shoe. No moccasins, canvas, or suede. No Keds, Sperrys, Vans, Toms, Converse or similarly styled shoe.	N/A
White Undershirt Optional	White	If needed for warmth. Plain white with no patterns or lace showing. Undergarments should never be visible.	N/A
Choir Attire	Black floor-length formal dress. Purchase from www.stageaccents.com. #5269 Dahlia Girls or #8864 Dahlia Ladies black floor-length formal dress. Solid black dress flats. Dress should be hemmed to touch front toe of shoe. If questions, please ask before hemming.		

#### LADIES: WHY SKIRTS?

The Chesterton Schools Network requires all female students to wear uniforms skirts. Skirts set women apart. The skirt reminds the young lady to carry herself as her worth demands, to remember that she is beautifully made, and to be aware of her feminine dignity.

### **UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR LADIES:**

Ladies should aim for a simple elegance that is appropriate for these years. Uniforms should always be clean, and blouses always tucked in. Additionally:

- Makeup for ladies must be light, simple and natural-looking. Foundation, light mascara, and light blush may be worn, but no eyeliner or eye shadow. Chapstick or clear or light lip-gloss is allowed. No colored lipstick or colored lipgloss are allowed.
- No sweatshirts, hoodies or other jackets should be worn over the uniform. If you are cold you must wear the school sweater and/or the blazer to keep warm. A coat over the blazer is acceptable when arriving or leaving the school.
- Nail polish is allowed but should be muted, tasteful, and professional. Nails should be clean and of moderate length.
- Hair accessories should be tasteful and professional. No athletic headbands, no bandanna headbands, no bright distracting colors. Color of hair accessory should complement the uniform.
- Ladies' hair should always be neatly groomed and clean. Hair color should be natural hues. No streaks of unnatural colors (reds, pinks, greens, etc.) on any part of hair.
- Necklaces should be metal chains (no leather or woven materials). No tightly fitting necklaces such as chokers.
- Earrings should be in the lobe ONLY. No gauges. Aside from ear lobe piercing, no other body piercings or tattoos are allowed.
- One bracelet and one watch may be worn. (No smart watches allowed, Fitbits

are permitted, but text notifications must be off). One lapel pin may be worn so long as it aligns with our mission.

- All jewelry should be tasteful, professional, and not excessive in size or number.
- No perfumes are allowed.
- No headwear may be worn inside the building (winter hats, baseball caps, etc.).
- All ladies should enter the building in complete uniform and be ready for the day ahead.
- When leaving at the end of the day the uniform in full must be worn until you leave campus.

### II. UNIFORM POLICY FOR GENTLEMEN

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	SCHOOLBELLES STYLE #
Blazer	Navy w/logo	Required to be worn daily all year.	#5825
V-Neck Sweater	Navy w/logo	The sweater is a finishing item, along with the blazer. On October 15 through May 15, a finishing item is required all day (could be blazer, vest or sweater with blazer). Sweater or vest may be worn year-round.	#1993 - Long sleeve pullover #1994 - Vest
Oxford Shirt	White w/logo	Collar buttons must always be buttoned.	#5760 - Short sleeve #5761 - Long sleeve
Pants	Gray	Plain or pleated front.	#5202 - Plain
Socks	Gray	May be purchased from another vendor as long as they are solid grey dress socks that match the pant color and are at least calf length. Ankle or calf may not be exposed at any time. Gold Toe Charcoal are the best and can be purchased at Kohl's or online.	#1653
Shoes	Black	Must be a solid black dress shoe, including soles, and able to take a shine and have non-scuff soles. No obvious brand logos. Shoes are always required.	N/A
Belt	Black	Non-woven, leather belt with a simple buckle. This can be purchased at Schoolbelles or from any vendor.	#6305

Tie 9-10 11-12	Color option selected by school	Color option selected by school	#4827
Choir Attire	Black dress pants and suit coat, white dress shirt (not oxford) and solid black bow tie. Solid black dress socks (must be to mid-calf) and black dress shoes (polished and in good condition). Some gentlemen choose to purchase a tuxedo from Stage Accents (www.stageaccents.com), the Premier Tuxedo Ensemble #ENSB. No patterns on bow tie and no pocket squares, lapel pins, vests, etc. allowed.		

#### **UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR GENTLEMEN:**

Gentlemen should likewise aim for a simplicity that is appropriate for these years. Uniforms should always be clean, and shirts ironed and always tucked in. Additionally:

- Only solid white tee shirts may be worn under the white oxford. No wording or pictures on the tee shirt should be visible.
- No sweatshirts, hoodies or other jackets should be worn over the uniform. If you are cold you must wear the school sweater and/or the blazer to keep warm. A coat over the blazer is acceptable when arriving or leaving the school.
- Simple chains and medals should be tucked under the shirt. No visible piercings or tattoos are allowed.
- One bracelet and one watch may be worn. (No smart watches allowed, Fitbits are okay, but text notifications must be off). One lapel pin may be worn so long as it aligns with the school's mission.
- Gentlemen's hair should always be neatly groomed and clean, with no highlights or dyeing. Hair must be trimmed above the eyebrows, ears and collar.
- All young men should be clean-shaven with sideburns not extending beyond the middle of the ear. Facial hair is not permitted.
- Gentlemen may not wear cologne.
- No headwear may be worn inside the building (e.g., winter hats, baseball caps, etc.)
- All gentlemen should enter the school building in full uniform and be ready for the day ahead.
- When leaving at the end of the day the uniform in full must be worn until you leave campus.

### III. OUT OF UNIFORM DRESS CODE - GUIDELINE

We live a full life together within the Chesterton community, enjoying sporting events, dances, and fine art performances both on campus and off campus. We expect all students to present themselves in a way that reflects their great dignity, and to dress in a modest and neat way at all Chesterton events, including those that occur outside of our normal school day.

#### A. SCHOOL DANCES AND "MORE FORMAL THAN NORMAL" SCHOOL DAYS

#### **LADIES**

- Semi-formal dress required (dress, tops, skirts)
- Dress and skirt length should match uniform skirt length, which is mid-knee
- If leggings are worn, they must be worn underneath a skirt or dress that reaches to the knee
- When sitting with feet flat on floor, skirt or dress should cover top part of knee
- Necklines of modest cut, and no exposed back, shoulder or midriff
- Dress shoes (no Keds, Vans, Sperry, Toms or Converse-type shoes)
- Sleeveless tops or dresses should have at least 2" of fabric on top of shoulder
- No visible undergarments

#### **GENTLEMEN**

- Semi-formal dress required (dress slacks, dress shirt, jacket, tie and belts)
- No jeans, shorts, sleeveless shirts, t-shirts, athletic shoes or Sperry, Vans, Toms, Converse-type shoes
- No visible undergarments

**NOTE**: At times school dances have themes that allow for students to dress in costume. Costume guidelines will be given prior to the dance.

### B. CHOIR CONCERT PERFORMANCES, COMMENCEMENT, AND GALA

Choir concert attire (see full choir uniform guidelines for complete description):

- Ladies black choir gown, black heels (no taller than 2") or black dress flats
- Gentlemen black suit, white button-down shirt, black bow tie, black leather belt. black dress shoes

# C. OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS (retreats, drama productions, athletic events, field days, lectures, after-school extra-curricular activities)

- Dress and skirt length should match uniform skirt length, which is mid-knee
- When shorts are permitted, please adhere to the following guidelines: with arms by your sides, the hem of the shorts must reach below your fingertips
- No tight-fitting pants or tops
- No midriff exposed
- At least 2 inches of fabric on each shoulder for sleeveless attire
- No ratty, stained clothing
- No undergarments showing at any time