



820 East 43<sup>rd</sup> Street | Baltimore MD 21212 | 410.396.6271 Phone

Joseph Eldridge, Principal

Danielle Smith, Asst. Principal | Larry Strickland, Asst. Principal | Brendan Walmer, Asst. Principal

Tiffany Harris, Principal's Secretary | Shawnisse Massey, School Secretary

## 2024-2025 Uniform Policy

Dear Parents/Guardians of Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School students:

Our number one goal at Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School is to provide your child with the best possible learning experience in a safe, positive environment. This upcoming school year, we will work each day to ensure students are successful at their job of learning. Therefore, we ask that you do the same by supporting our standardized dress (school uniform) which has been implemented for the past several years. We believe standard dress has a positive impact on students' learning and behavior in and around the school, serves to unite students, increases school pride, and eliminates class barriers that develop when some students cannot afford expensive name-brand clothing. As part of our Positive Behavior Incentive System (PBIS), students will be awarded incentives for demonstrating positive student behavior and for wearing their school uniform daily.

Please read below to clarify what the standard dress should be to ensure that your child is in correct dress at the start of the new school year as all students. Pre-K through 8th grade are expected to wear the required uniform outlined below:

### **PreK-4th Grade Students Red Polo styled shirts:**

Polo/collared shirts (long or short sleeves) and sweaters/sweater vests for cool weather may be red or khaki.

### **5th-8th Grade Students Black Polo styled shirts:**

Polo/collared shirts (long or short sleeves) and sweaters/sweater vests for cool weather may be black or khaki.

### **PreK- 8th Grade Khaki Bottoms:**

Shorts, pants, skirts, jumpers, skorts, capris (length should meet BCPSS standard dress code requirements). Belts are suggested for belt loops. Bottoms should fit properly and not sag below the waist.

Leggings are permitted underneath skirts.

**Shoes:**

Students may wear their choice of shoes. However, they must be safe and appropriate for the learning environment (closed toe shoes are preferred to prevent any injuries). Students must wear athletic shoes in all PE classes and/or outdoor activities. Cleats, slippers, flip flops, Crocs, and shoes with wheels are not permitted to be worn on campus.

**Accessories:**

Students may wear accessories to accompany their uniform such as ear rings and bracelets. However, necklaces are not an allowable item (unless for religious reasons). Additionally, removable fronts that are not permanent are not permitted. All purses, shoulder bags, cross body bags, and fanny packs are allowed but must not present as a distraction to the student or he/she will be asked to store it in his/her locker.

**CLARIFICATIONS:**

The following articles of clothing may NOT be worn during the school day:

- Spandex or elastic shorts or pants worn as an outer garment
- Any coat or jacket intended to be an outer garment
- Any article of clothing which allows any undergarments to be exposed
- Hooded sweatshirts, head coverings (hats, scarves- unless for religious reasons)
- Pants with any holes/cuts/slits or wording across the backside

Below are the following sanctions that will be rendered upon those students who refuse to conform to this policy requiring school uniforms. The sanctions are as follows:

**1st Offense**

Student referral to the Classroom Reengagement Specialist. Parents immediately notified of the problem. Student will be required to change into the uniform brought to school by the parent or provided by the school.

**2nd Offense**

Repeat procedure as listed in 1st Offense. Student loses recess privilege for one to two days at the elementary level. Middle school students receive one after school reflection.

**3rd Offense**

Repeat procedure as listed in 1st Offense. Student loses recess privilege for three to five days at the elementary level. Middle school students receive two to three days of after school reflections.

**4th Offense**

Repeat procedure as listed in 1st Offense. Parent Conference requested by Director of Climate and Culture to determine the cause of the repeated offenses.



Additionally, students may be out of standard dress on school picture days. However, it is expected that students will follow the dress code for Baltimore City Public Schools available online at [www.baltimorecityschools.org](http://www.baltimorecityschools.org) when they are out of standard dress. Throughout the year, there are special days that will be communicated later as designated opportunities for students to wear clothing other than their school uniform. Please support our standard dress effort and ensure that your child is appropriately dressed. We firmly believe that if our students are dressed for school in clothing consistent with our standard dress code, they will be better prepared to focus on what's important: knowledge acquisition.

Sincerely,

*Joseph Eldridge*, Principal

*Danielle Smith, Larry Strickland, Brendan Walmer*, Assistant Principals

Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School, #134