Lower School Dress Code and Guidelines 2019-2020

The Portledge Pillars of Kindness, Purpose, Respect and Honor provide the framework for student conduct expectations. As such, students are expected to dress each day in clothing that respects and supports the purposeful work of a serious academic community. Clothing should be neat, clean, and in good repair. It is important to note that acceptable attire outside of school can differ from what is deemed appropriate for the school environment.

Kindergarten - Fifth Grade

Students May Wear:
- Short or long-sleeved collared, button-down shirt or polo shirt.
- Sweater vests, cardigans, sweaters and 1/2 zip pullovers with a collared shirt underneath; with or without the Portledge logo.
- Approved, Portledge Lower School blue sweatshirt or 1/2 zip pullover. These can be purchased at the Panther Den.
- Solid-colored dress pants or casual pants, defined as pants that are fastened by a button or clasp and/or that have functional pockets.
- Short or long-sleeve dresses (no bare shoulders, spaghetti straps, halter or racer-back style dresses permitted.)
- Solid-colored, Bermuda-length or similar dress shorts may be worn in September, October, May, and June.
- A belt is strongly recommended.
- Boat shoes, loafers, sneakers, flats, dress sandals, and dress boots (no higher than the base of the knee). We recommend closed-toe shoes for safety on the playground.
- Kindergarten students only may wear leggings under skirts or dresses

Students May Not Wear:
- Leggings are not permitted at any time
- Flip flops intended for the beach or pool
- Blue denim
- Cargo or jogger-style pants, skin tight and other similarly relaxed pants
- Athletic attire including sweatpants, mesh shorts or yoga pants designed for use in a gym setting or in athletic or recreational activity or competition
- Shorts rompers/pant jumpsuits
- Pajamas or other loungewear-style attire
- Hats, visors, or any type of headgear
- Hooded clothing of any kind
- Excessive or distracting jewelry

Monthly Dress-Down:
The first Friday of each month that school is in session is a dress-down day. The dress code is relaxed on dress-down days to permit Portledge athletic gear and other more casual attire. Clothing, however, must be in good repair as well as reflect positive regard for the school.

When snow or other inclement weather is present or forecast:
Snow or other weather-specific boots are permitted

Pre-Nursery - Pre-Kindergarten:
Pre-Nursery through Pre-Kindergarten children do not have to strictly adhere to the above dress code; they are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing appropriate for play-based learning. We recommend closed-toe shoes for safety on the playground.

The school reserves the right to use judgement in individual cases based on the needs or religious beliefs of the student or other special circumstances.

Please note: The Panther Den will be open by late August and carries many dress-code approved items for purchase. Please call the school for specific hours. The following stores also carry clothing that meets dress-code requirements: J.Crew, Lands’ End, LL Bean, Ralph Lauren, Vineyard Vines, Gap, Old Navy, Children’s Place, and Target.