

Pat M. Neff Middle School

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June 17, 2008

SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009 Letter Series 1

TO THE PARENTS OF NEFF TEXANS:

This is the first in a series of letters you will receive over the summer months. The topic of this letter is school uniforms.

History

Since 1998-99 the dress code for Neff Middle School has been a school uniform. The original decision to implement a uniform policy was spearheaded by Neff parents, community members, school administration and teachers during that time period.

The rationale for establishing the wearing of uniforms was based on the desire to change improper attire being worn by students, to stop theft of expensive clothing items, and to eliminate a class system (haves and have nots) promoted by how students dressed. The proposal, once it was created and reviewed and fine-tuned to meet the desires of the Neff patrons and other supporters, was presented to the Superintendent and the Board. It was overwhelmingly approved.

The uniform's style and colors have evolved over the years under each administration. Under my administration, the polo shirt colors have been changed to identify each grade level: white for 6th grade, gray for 7th grade, and navy blue for 8th grade. The students were given the option of navy blue or khaki Docker-style pants. Unfortunately, the khaki pants led to many uniform problems, particularly in the pant style. There were cargo pants, low-rise, hip-huggers, spandex, jean-style pants – all of these not conforming to the required uniform. Based on these problems therefore, all pants beginning with the 2008-09 school year will be one color, navy blue, one style (straight-legged Docker style) for ALL grade levels (6th, 7th, 8th).

You will find on the back side of this letter a detailed uniform guideline chart. We trust that you will help your student abide by this policy for this upcoming school year. Parents will be contacted to provide proper attire should their child arrive at school and not be in compliance with the school's uniform policy. If a parent is unavailable, the student will be placed in the In-School Suspension classroom for the remainder of the day. The uniform policy consequence guideline for Neff will be followed. Persistent non-compliance with uniform policy will be considered insubordination.

Thank you for your cooperation with and your support of the Neff uniform policy.

Sylvia Y. Wade
Principal