

Dearest parents of beautiful LCCS daughters,

As a father of two lovely daughters myself, I understand the joy and also the “Yikes, my baby is going to a dance!” that comes with events like Homecoming & Spring Formal. We want all our daughters to be free to have a good time, but we also want give guidelines for our expectations. We are making every effort to institute a process of dress checks that is streamlined while adequately giving good feedback toward the goal of modesty. This year, we’re adopting a process that should give you timely approval while lessening the awkwardness and time involved in a dress check.

### **Dress Code Guidelines for Ladies’ Homecoming & Formal Attire**

Our goal is to help our young ladies select beautiful and modest choices that reflect the values of our faith and school honor code. This document includes the LCCS dress guidelines.

**A young lady will not be admitted to the Homecoming Dance if the dress does not meet the guidelines. Dr. Williams will greet you at the door and discreetly instruct you if you need to make adjustments to meet the guidelines. Obviously, arriving in compliance is most expedient. Please read the guidelines below.**

#### **Dress Guidelines**

The “perfect dress” accentuates a young lady’s best features. It allows the young woman to feel lovely and beautiful and enjoy the evening. Since our goal is modesty, please consider the following when shopping for a dress:

The fit and style of the dress chosen will allow everything to be tucked into the bodice of the dress. Tugging, re-adjusting and worrying about wardrobe malfunctions distracts from the fun of the evening.

Also, the students dance and move at the Homecoming Dinner & Dance. In your personal dress check, stand in front of a full length mirror. It is helpful to view the dress from a variety of angles and to move around in it. Are there any modesty concerns? If the young ladies’ date is tall, what can be seen and is there a modesty concern?

These are simple things that can be done at home to remedy many modesty concerns. Most dresses can be altered with a *minimal* amount of effort. Simple additions of small fabric insets, basted stitches, lingerie tape, and other temporary adjustments often remedy any concerns on the dress.

Please consider the following when shopping for a dress:

#### **Neckline**

- Straight-across, Bateau, Asymmetrical and Square necklines work well
- Halter, Off-the Shoulder and some Asymmetrical necklines need special attention to the side-view. The fit and style of the dress chosen will allow everything to be tucked into the bodice of the dress.
- No plunging or low cut necklines. The entire bust must be covered.
- Sweetheart necklines should fit snugly to prevent a gap between the dress and the body and may require a small inset across the bustline. Modesty is the goal.

### **Length**

- The length of skirt, *including* the slit, may come up to **4"** above your knee.
- If the dress is a hi-low style of hemline, the *highest* part of the hemline should be no shorter than 4" above the knee.
- If the dress has layers and the top layer is sheer, the underneath layer should be no shorter than 4" above the knee.

### **Fit & Style of Dress**

- See-through (mesh), sheer portions or cut outs on the bodice are not allowed.
- Very form fitting dresses (this *may* include mermaid-skirted dresses) are not acceptable. The back of the dress should fall straight down the back from the hips & bottom and not cup up under them.
- No tube or spandex dresses.
- The back of the dress should be cut no lower than the *natural* waist (bellybutton is a good guide).
- Two-piece dress must follow all other guidelines as well as **not** showing **any** midriff when standing and/or moving. If the bodice does not sufficiently overlap the skirt of the dress, then midriff will show when moving. This does not follow the guidelines.

### **Other Things to Consider**

- Appropriate undergarments provide a modest foundation for the dress. Items such as Spanx create an extra layer that smooths, holds everything in place and provides modesty under thin, clingy and stretchy fabrics.
- Dark tights, leggings, etc. do not solve a dress length problem.

Thanks ahead of time for your help and understanding in this matter. As always, I welcome your feedback and questions.

Dr. Josh Williams