

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMERCE ISD E-LETTER • AUGUST 2016



Charlie Alderman

New start and end times

Pre-K ... 7:45 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

CES ... 7:50 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

ACW ... 7:55 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

CMS ... 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Accountability ratings out

All CISD campuses “Met Standard” in the Texas accountability ratings. More details will follow about additional distinctions for campuses.



New leadership takes the helm at CISD

Charlie Alderman, a 1991 Commerce High School graduate, is expected to be named superintendent of Commerce ISD on August 24 by the CISD Board of Trustees.

Alderman returned to the district three years ago as director of curriculum and instruction and was named assistant superintendent last year. Prior to that he was high school principal at Sulphur Springs and Melissa. He began his career in education at Terrell High School where he was a science teacher. He was later named assistant principal.

He received his bachelor’s degree from Baylor University and his master’s from Texas A&M University-Commerce. He has completed all coursework for his doctorate at A&M-Commerce.

Alderman’s educational roots run deep as both of his parents, Alvis and Marcia Alderman, were administrators at CISD.

“It’s all about the kids and what’s best for them,” he said.

Alderman was a key player in the development of the Pride Academy, which will be operated by Texas A&M University-Commerce at Commerce High School this year. Seventeen incoming freshmen will take dual credit courses and upon graduation they should have 30 hours of college credit.

Charlie and his wife, Sarah, have two children who attend Commerce Elementary School. Tessa will be in kindergarten and Colton is a first grader.

State law requires school boards to name a lone finalist and they must wait 21 days before officially naming the superintendent.

Interviews will take place soon for the assistant superintendent position.

ACW interim principal Mary Shores will continue in her role until a new principal is chosen. Interviews will take place this week with someone in place by September 1.

Rise and shine for bus transportation

Bus riders should receive a call from their bus driver about the approximate pick up time for Monday morning, the first day of school.

Parents should call the bus barn at 903 886-3778 Monday after 6 a.m. if they did not receive a call.

Transportation supervisor Kim McCarty encourages students to be ready early. She added that the process usually runs smoothly by the end of the first few days.





Angie Burns
Pre-Kindergarten



Weston Evans
Special Education



Shylo Faske
Kindergarten



Amber Hammons
First Grade



Nicole Johnson
First Grade



Melody Kimbrell
Kindergarten



Stefanie Spinks
Kindergarten



Cari Aaron
Learner Support, ACW



Joanna Byrd
Fourth Grade



Whitney Fox
Fifth Grade



Trish Hawkins
Fourth Grade



Kaitlin Wells
Third Grade



Rachel West
Fourth Grade



Dr. Timothy Allen
Special Education, CMS



Kristi Dunn
Sixth Grade Social Studies



Maria Garza
Spanish



Judy Evans
History/Girls Coach, CHS



Shelley Jones
Girls Coach, CHS



Brian Lewis
Math/Boys Coach, CHS



Paul Turner
Social Studies/Boys Coach, CHS



Scott Wilson
Social Studies/Boys Coach, CHS



Dr. Shenequa Miller
Principal, CMS



Felisha Jones
Assistant Principal, CHS



Tina Bronson
Assistant Principal, ACW



Kathryn Myers
Director of Health
Services



Jessica Duckworth
District Library/Media
Coordinator

Commerce Independent School District believes that students should learn to dress for success in order to be successful and lead productive lives. Students should dress in a way that is appropriate for a teaching and learning environment. Maintaining a school atmosphere suitable for academic study will help students focus on learning. The Dress Policy is an important step toward furthering excellence and better preparing students for future educational opportunities, careers, and successful living as adults.

Parent & Student Responsibility: The parent and student shall be responsible for ensuring that the student is in compliance with all aspects of this policy when the student enters the school premises and during the time the student is on school premises during the regular school day.

Principal is Final Authority: The Board delegates to the building principal the authority to make final determination as to whether clothing or grooming is/is not within this Code.

PANTS, SKIRTS, SHORTS, SKORTS, CAPRI PANTS & JUMPERS

Pants, shorts, capri pants and jeans will always be allowed, as long as they have no holes in them and are worn at the waist.

Shorts, skirts or skorts *must be fingertip length or longer; skirt slits may not exceed above knee.*

Jumpers may be fingertip length or longer and must be worn over a dress approved shirt.

NOT ALLOWED:

Sweatpants, pajama pants, wind pants, warm-ups, athletic wear, overalls, or coveralls.

Athletic shorts or any shorts that are not fingertip length.

SHIRTS

School spirit shirts, in acceptable styles, will be allowed as approved by campus principals.

Shirts with Long or Short sleeves

NOT ALLOWED:

Sleeveless shirts, spaghetti straps, halter tops, backless shirts

Tight, extremely form-fitting shirts

Low cut shirts

SHOES, SHOESTRINGS, SOCKS & HOSIERY

Footwear must be closed toe and heel

Tights, hosiery or leggings can be worn under appropriate shorts or dresses only

OUTER AND WINTER WEAR

Coats, jackets and scarves shall be removed when entering the building and placed in a designated area

Lightweight jackets and school approved spirit or letter jackets are allowed in the classroom to accommodate for classroom temperature variances. Clothing underneath must meet dress guidelines.

SPIRIT WEAR & SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Spirit wear must have a principal approved school related logo

OTHER GUIDELINES

No clothing or other articles with inappropriate pictures, emblems, or writings that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, immodest, gang related or promote or refer to alcoholic beverages, weapons, or any other substance prohibited by board policy.

No clothing that reveals skin at midriff or undergarments

Startling, unusual or immodest attire of any sort shall not be permitted. Fads in hairstyles, clothing or anything designed to attract attention to the individual or to disrupt the orderly conduct of the classroom is not permitted.

Hair should be neat and well groomed at all times and shall not obstruct vision. No streaks shaved in eyebrows.

Hats, caps, hoods, wave caps, headbands, bandannas, rollers or any other head coverings/accessories are not acceptable attire and may not be worn in the building.

All clothing must be properly hemmed and cuffed; torn, ripped, frayed or cut clothing will not be allowed.

Clothing and other articles that are considered “gang related” are not allowed.

Spandex or nylon materials are not allowed

Tattoos and body art, fake or real, are not allowed

“Grillz” or temporary decorations on teeth are not to be worn.

Orthodontic approved mouth wear is acceptable.

Exemptions: Exemptions are granted for specific items or circumstances rather than for the entire dress guidelines.

Exemptions will be based on a specific student’s need rather than a desire to not follow the dress guidelines. Exemptions should be reviewed each year to determine if the need still exists.

Extracurricular Activities: The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate dress and grooming standards established for such an activity may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor, and may be subject to other disciplinary actions, as specified in the Student Code of Conduct.

Dress for Special Occasions: The principal at any campus has the authority to allow all or part of the student body of the campus to vary from the standard mode of dress; establish a particular mode of attire for special occasion days; or for particular school-sponsored or school-related activities.

Students in violation of the student dress and grooming code will be expected to change to appropriate when violations are brought to their attention. Students will not be allowed to leave campus for the purpose of changing clothes. Students who fail to meet this requirement of compliance with the Dress and Grooming Code may spend the remainder of the day in IN-School Suspension.

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

The CISD dress code is established and intended to: 1) teach students grooming and hygiene; 2) create and maintain a respectful and positive learning environment; 3) prevent the disruption, interference with, or detraction from the educational environment and school activities; 4) minimize health and safety hazards; and 5) provide a safe environment for student learning.

Students and parents share responsibility for complying with the District's dress code and should be aware of dress code provisions.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Startling, unusual, or immodest attire of any sort is not permitted. This includes fads in hairstyles, and clothing or anything designed to attract attention to the individual or to disrupt the orderly conduct of the campus. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with this dress code. Note: This dress code provides guidance regarding common situations but cannot cover every style of dress and specific situations that may arise. The District reserves the right to prohibit any clothing or grooming style that the administration determines to be reasonable expected to pose a health or safety hazard or to cause substantial disruption of, distraction from, or interference with general school operations. In addition, extracurricular programs may have additional requirements or guidelines for students participating in those programs.

REGARDING PANTS, SHORTS, SKIRTS, ETC.:

Must fit properly; no sagging or extremely baggy/sloppy pants. Torn or ripped pants are prohibited.

Bicycle shorts, spandex garments, tights, jeggings, etc. are to be worn *only* under clothing that already conforms to the dress code.

Extremely tight pants (skinny jeans and knit pants) are not acceptable.

When shorts are worn appropriately at the student's waist, their length must extend one inch below the student's fingertips when arms are down and hanging naturally at the side of the student's body. Athletic shorts are not permitted.

Skirt/dress length must extend 4 inches below the student's fingertips when standing naturally. Modesty and appropriate coverage are our concerns with regard to skirt and dress length.

REGARDING SHIRTS, TOPS, DRESSES, ETC.:

Must fit properly (not too baggy, not too tight)

Shirt tails may be worn outside and cannot exceed beyond the student's fingertips. Students will be asked to tuck in shirt if shirt length is below fingertips.

Shirts or dresses that expose the midriff or back or "racer cut," have string straps, are strapless, are see through or low cut may not be worn.

Shirts such as tank tops, muscle shirts, sleeveless jerseys, tall t-shirts, or shirts with ragged/torn hems are not allowed.

REGARDING CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES, AND JEWELRY, THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED:

Sweat pants and athletic shorts

Pajamas

Mouth grills or other decorations

Caps, hats, bandannas, head coverings and/or sunglasses (unless permitted by the principal).

TRENCH COATS OR DUSTERS

Any clothing that is lewd, vulgar, morbid, slanderous, incitant, offensive, contains sexual innuendos, or that depicts violence or illegal activity.

Depicts alcohol, tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, other illegal/controlled substances, paraphernalia, or other outlawed items

Depicts gang activities, organized crime, or satanic themes.

Open toed shoes, slides or sandals or flip flops are prohibited. Shoes must be worn at all times.

Appropriate undergarments must be worn, but should not be visible at any time. See-through attire is unacceptable.

REGARDING GROOMING AND PERSONAL HYGIENE:

Students shall follow appropriate personal hygiene practices relative to body and clothing cleanliness. Students who are visibly dirty or have body odor will be counseled and given a chance to rectify the situation at school. Parents will be notified when possible.

Hair should be neat, clean and well groomed.

Students may not have unusual patterns; letters or numbers shaved or cut in the hair. Eyebrows should not be cut, notched, or shaved with any designs.

Unusual and/or distracting hair designs are not allowed (i.e. Mohawks, rattails, dreadlocks, or spikes)

Hair or streaks in the hair must be a naturally occurring hair color.

Tattoos and body art, fake or real, are not allowed.

Hair shall not be combed or brushed in such a manner that one or both eyes are covered.

Gauge-type earrings or earrings large enough to be a safety issue in classrooms are prohibited.

Only ear piercings are allowed.

ENFORCEMENT

Teachers and administrators have the authority to enforce the dress code.

VIOLATIONS

If an administrator determines that a student's grooming or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If the student refuses to make the appropriate corrections, the student's parent/guardian will be contact for assistance in making the necessary corrections. If both the student and parent/guardian refuse, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to correct a dress code violation. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Students who refuse to follow the dress code repeatedly will lose the privilege of calling home to ask parents to deliver appropriate clothes to school. These students will be sent directly to ISS. In all cases, appropriate disciplinary action will be administered in compliance with the Student Code of Conduct.