



## Worthington CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Worthington Christian Students,

Spring Gala, our annual formal event for juniors and seniors, will be held on Saturday, May 4, at Brookside Country Club, 2770 W. Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235. There are many beautiful photo opportunities around the property.

The parent reception is from 6:00-7:00 p.m., and it is a great opportunity for parents to gather for photos before the event starts. Further details and ticket information will be provided in future communications. All info will also be posted on the [Upper School Announcements page](#) on our website. **Please know that this is the only official, school-hosted, school-approved event that night. Other parties or gatherings are NOT school-sponsored, school-approved, or school-supervised.** Parents need to communicate with other parents about any other parties or gatherings.

Below are our dress code guidelines for Gala. Please read them thoroughly and carefully.

**Guys are expected to wear at least a sport coat, dress shirt, tie, dress pants (not jeans), and dress shoes.**

Many of them enjoy renting tuxes. Some of our young men take this opportunity to buy the suit every young man needs to have – one that can be used for a job interview or attending a more formal social or business event.

Exceptionally tight or revealing clothing, unbuttoned shirts, etc. are not appropriate for an event like Gala. If any young man is wondering about the appropriateness of his wardrobe choices, he should consult with Mr. Kraynak in advance.

**Girls are expected to wear dressy dresses.**

Yes, we still do dress checks. Some take umbrage at this, but as dress designers continue to push the envelope of clothing that draws attention to parts of the body instead of the person as a whole, we, and other schools (both public and private), have come to understand that checking dresses is a good way to guarantee a positive event.

This year, dress checks will be done via phone. In the last several years the girls have done an excellent job with the guidelines below. We are asking that you **send a picture of the front, side and back to Mrs. Raikes at 614-940-4430**. We will need to see a picture of the student wearing the dress, not one from a magazine or catalog. Please also make sure that the student's face is also included in the picture.

Below are the specifics that will help you and your daughter select that special dress for Gala and will allow her to express her God-given beauty. As we have learned from conducting Gala dress checks the past 25+ years, regardless of the guidelines provided, various styles of dresses can look different from girl to girl. **Therefore, if we have a need to see the dress in person, we will make arrangements to do so. We have always taken pictures in the past to ensure each dress has been checked as well as to let the girls know if there are any duplicates.**

Below are a few guidelines for the dresses:

- Dresses may be strapless.
- Dresses may be backless as long as they are not cut below the naval.
- 2-piece dresses MUST overlap at the waist, meaning the top MUST overlap with the skirt's waistband.
- Midriffs will not be exposed. This includes both front and side. With arms down at your side, if skin touches skin, the dress is inappropriate.
- See-through/sheer apparel or panels are not permitted.
- Dresses may not have a slit that exceeds mid-thigh. This is fingertip length.
- Dresses may not be cut below the bust line.
- Undergarments should not be visible.
- Garments that are too tight or low-cut are also unacceptable.

**We suggest that you NOT purchase a dress that is not returnable in case the dress is not approved.**

If guidelines are not followed, we will ask the student to leave the event and/or wait until the next school day to meet with both the student AND parents to discuss the consequences for not adhering to school policy.

In light of the school's position on human sexuality, students are expected to dress in ways that are consistent with their God-given biological sex during school and at school-related activities. Furthermore, students may bring guests only of the opposite biological sex to certain social events such as Gala. All expectations relating to this policy are rooted in the school's biblical and theological understanding of human sexuality and ultimately are interpreted by the school's administration.

Another word about inviting guests: A junior or senior can invite a WC freshman or sophomore as their guest. If your son or daughter is inviting a guest who attends a school other than WC, please be sure to share the dress code information with the guest. **Female guests are required to send their dresses to Mrs. Raikes to be approved. Non-WC guests must also turn in a [guest permission form](#) to the office prior to the event.**

Thank you again for allowing us to have such an important role in your young person's life. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Raikes

614-940-4430

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