

Delphos Saint John's Junior High/High School
515 East Second Street Delphos, Ohio 45833
Phone: (419) 692-5371 / Fax: (419) 879-6874

Adam Lee - Principal

Alan Unterbrink - Guidance Counselor

Todd Schulte - Athletic Director

Delphos St. John's High School Prom Guidelines

The U.S. Bishops state that "as Christians we should dress in a modest manner, wearing clothing that reflect our reverence for God and that manifest our respect for the dignity of the liturgy and for one another" (Happy Are Those Who Are Called to His Supper, p.15) It is the intention of St. John's High School Staff/Administration to provide a safe and enjoyable Prom experience. These policies are meant to ensure that the values and beliefs of St. John's are lived not only in the classroom but also in the social activities on campus. It is the school's responsibility to ensure that the conduct of its students/guests reflects responsibility, modesty, and dignity. All regulations outlined below will be enforced.

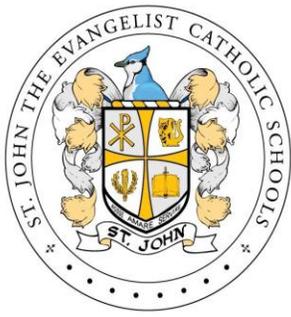
Dress Code

Attire that is inappropriate for the occasion or deviates from modesty in the judgment of a school administrator will result in being denied admission. **This includes guests from other schools.**

- For **Males**:
 - Males must wear tuxedos or suits (white, black, gray, navy, tan will only be permitted)
 - Males must wear dress shoes. (Tennis shoes, casual leather or canvas style athletic shoes, or Sperry topsider style shoes are not permitted.)
 - Males must wear long/short sleeve button down shirts. Polo shirts or t-shirts are not permitted.
 - Males must wear either a tie or bow tie.
 - No earrings, body jewelry, or body piercings are permitted. Top Hats and Cowboy Hats will be the only type of Hat permitted.
 - Young men are to be clean-shaven, and meet school guidelines regarding length and style of hair.
- For **Females**, dresses and attire that reflect modesty are required. Each year, the most difficult task for administrators is the determination of modesty for girls. Traditional interpretations are often at odds with fashion and cultural trends. Each year, girls are turned away or asked to modify. This is easily avoidable if the following guidelines are observed:
 - Prom attire should reflect more a formal occasion (like a wedding) rather than a night on the town or at a club.
 - Dresses that are too revealing, are extremely skin tight or extremely form fitting, expose midriffs or cleavage, or are too short in length are not appropriate.
 - Claims that a dress was worn at last year's Prom or at Homecoming, or comparisons to the dresses of other girls already admitted to Prom will not be entertained or discussed. (Claiming that "others were speeding" rarely works when pulled over by police.)
 - Modesty is admittedly a subjective interpretation, but one which we have a duty to uphold. Girls should therefore err on the side of modesty and formality and not put school administrators in the difficult position of upholding school standards. Having been specifically forewarned, I expect nothing less than full cooperation from girls and their parents on this issue.

Specifications for Dresses

- Dress backs may not fall below and/or be lower than the elbows
- Dresses may not be shorter than your longest fingertip when arms are fully extended and standing. This includes any slits in the dress. If you purchase a dress with a slit that does not meet these guidelines, you will need to have the slit sewn.
- The bodice of the dress must not have any fabric cutouts below the neckline cut of the dress. Openings in the back or sides of the dress must be covered with a colored fabric (flesh or excessively sheer fabric is not permitted). Openings of this type are not permitted in the front or sides of the dress, which are revealing in anyway.
- Dresses must not be low cut in the front. Be especially careful with halter-style dresses or strapless dresses with a sweetheart neckline and/or a deep V. No two-piece or dresses that expose the midriff will be accepted.



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Dress Approval

- All girls (both St. John's students and dates from other schools) will need to submit a dress for approval.
- Please use the following guidelines when submitting your dress for approval:
 - Submit a picture of yourself in the dress via email to BOTH Mrs. Hellman (paula@delphosstjohns.org) and Mrs. Gillespie (gillespie@delphosstjohns.org).
 - Do not text the teachers' pictures of the dress, they must be submitted by email for approval.
 - Be sure that you send a picture of both the front, sides, and back of the dress.
 - Due to issues with pictures and/or the dress itself, you may be asked to send additional photos if a determination cannot be made.
 - We will need at least 24 hours to respond to your email, so please do not sit at a dress shop waiting for us to respond immediately.
 - We will not approve dresses via text message.
 - We will not approve dresses that are not sent to both Instructors.
 - All dresses will need to be approved one week before Prom takes place.
 - Once your dress is approved, we will print out the picture and have you sign it. If you make any unacceptable alterations after that, you still run the risk of being turned away at the door.
- Please keep in mind that we are doing this for YOU. This takes a great deal of time, but our goal is to ensure that everyone is able to get into prom looking beautiful and classy.

The guidelines are clearly spelled out. Please do not submit dresses that clearly do not meet one of the requirements.

Conduct

- All conduct outlined in the "High School Dance Guidelines" and Student Handbook will be in effect. This is a School Function and as a result, all school policies apply.

Breathalyzers

- All students and guests may undergo a Breathalyzer test for alcohol before and/or after being admitted to the dance. Students/guests who test positive will be denied entrance to the dance. Parents will be notified immediately and will be expected to pick up their child. No refunds will be given to students whose test positive and further discipline will result.

I/we have read the Prom Guidelines and agree to abide by the guidelines outlined above. I/we understand that my/our failure to abide by these policies will result in my/our removal from the dance. **No one will be issued admittance to Prom without this signed section on file with the office.**

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Printed Name

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature

Date

Please sign and return this portion of the Prom Policy to Office One Week before Prom, to be eligible to attend