



July 22, 2024

Dear GREAT Academy Parent,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are excited to partner with you in your child's academic success.

This year, you will have three opportunities for orientation/registration. You can choose to attend during one of the following: August 1st between 1pm-6pm, August 2nd between 1pm-5pm and August 5th between 8:30am-12:30pm. The process will take about 30 minutes to complete. Students who have not completed the registration process will not be allowed to start on the first day of school.

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 7th. The school day begins at 8:50am and ends at 4:10pm. This school year, students in grades 6-11 will be required to wear uniforms. We are currently waiting for the polo order to arrive. Once we receive the order, students will be issued their polos and will be required to follow the Mandatory School Uniform Policy (listed below). Until that time, students will be required to abide by the Free Dress Policy (listed below). Please thoroughly review these expectations. You will be signing to acknowledge your understanding of these expectations during registration. Once the order arrives, students will also be receiving a TGA backpack, lunch bag and water bottles.

You will be receiving information on completing the online registration process soon. Please be looking out for it in your email inbox. The online registration process for returning students will be to update and/or confirm the information we have on file.

Students who need a parking permit must bring their Driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance in order to complete a Student Parking Permit Application. Parent, student, and Administration signatures are mandatory for a parking permit to be issued.

If you cannot attend Registration or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (505)792-0306.

Sincerely,

Keisha Matthews

Principal/Director of Academics



MANDATORY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY 2024-2025

Rationale

The school uniform policy promotes school culture, safety, improves discipline and enhance the learning environment. The GREAT Academy is a business school model and strives to teach students that there is a time and a place for everything. For students, school is business and should be treated with an appropriate degree of professionalism, which is exuded through the school uniform. The potential benefits of school uniforms include, but are not limited to the following:

- Preparing students how to dress professionally for the workforce and career beyond high school.
- Instilling students with discipline.
- Decreasing violence and theft – even life-threatening situations – among students over designer clothing or expensive sneakers.
- Helping to prevent anyone with gang affiliation from wearing colors and insignia at school.
- Helping parents and students resist peer pressure.
- Helping students concentrate on their schoolwork.
- Helping school officials recognize intruders who come into the school.

School shirts will be loaned to each student. Other items can be purchased separately at any department store. All attire will be of a professional nature and be pressed, clean and in good repair at all times. The following list is not all-inclusive and sound judgment by the staff will be used to ensure all students present a professional image.

NO OVERSIZED CLOTHING WILL BE ALLOWED AT ANY TIME.

NO UNIFORM ITEMS SHOULD BE EXCESSIVELY TIGHT!

- **SHIRTS** – The GREAT Academy standard issue shirt is the GREAT Academy polo. The polo is not required to be tucked into pants. The TGA white dress shirt will be worn for formal occasions. The TGA white dress shirt must be tucked into pants. All shirts must be free of excessive wrinkling. Undershirts must be always worn under the white dress shirt. Female undergarments should not be visible through the white dress shirt under any circumstances. The undershirt may be crew or V-neck design. While wearing the white dress shirt, the undershirt will always be white. No logos should be visible through the white dress shirt from the undershirt. If an undershirt is worn while wearing the red polo, it will be white, black or red. Sweatshirts or hoodies are not to be worn under the polo.

- **PANTS** – Black dress slacks must be worn with a black belt at the waist and belts must be through the loops of the pants. The slacks can be with or without pleats. Pants are to be made of a dress pant fabric (usually a blend of cotton and polyester). Women’s dress pants will not be made of any type of stretchy material. Pants will be full length and at least to the ankle and NOT the calf. Dockers, chinos and Dickies are acceptable. Men’s pants must have belt loops and a belt is to be worn. Women’s pants do not necessarily need to have belt loops if they meet all other criteria. If the women’s pants do not have belt loops, a belt is not required. Any pants made with stretchy fabric like a leggings or yoga pants are not allowed. Pants are to have a standard waistline. High-waisted pants are not allowed. Female slacks must have a flare at the legs. Absolutely NO cargo pants, jeans, sweat suit pants, yoga pants, skinny cut slacks, leggings or pajamas. NO shorts of any type.



- **BELTS** – Belts must be worn with pants that have belt loops. All belts will be black and leather. They must not have any design either on the belt or on the buckle.
- **SKIRTS** – Skirts must be black. Asymmetrical hem lines are not allowed. Shirts are not required to be tucked. Skirts must not be extremely tight. Skirts should be close to knee length. Skirt splits must not be more than 3 inches long. Absolutely NO mini-skirts. Skirts must be made of a “slacks/dockers” type of material, avoiding stretchy or t-shirt type material.
- **OUTERWEAR** – If conditions dictate, TGA sweaters/jackets are the only cold weather clothing allowed to be worn inside the building. NO pullovers, hoodies, sweatshirts of any kind will be worn. NO other outerwear is to be worn in the building. During inclement weather coats will be taken off after entering the building before leaving the front desk area.
- **SHOES** – Shoes must be black tennis shoes. Tennis shoes should be comfortable, have a rubber sole, clean, and in good repair. Shoes must fit securely on the foot. Flats, loafers, shoes with open toes or backless shoes (including flip flops, sandals, mules and slides) will not be allowed. Shoes may slip on or be laced. In the event of medical necessity, an alternative shoe will need to be approved by the administration. No crocs or foam shoes or slides (Yeezy or look-alikes).
- **SOCKS** – Black or white sports socks should be worn at all times.



- **TATTOOS** – No student will have tattoos exposed while wearing the school uniform. If a student has tattoos in areas not covered by the uniform, they will be covered in a discreet manner with bandages or appropriate articles of clothing. Once enrolled at The GREAT Academy, students that obtain any tattoos that are not in alignment with the dress code may be asked to reconsider enrollment.
- **JEWELRY** – Students may wear conservative earrings that are considered appropriate in a professional setting and not be larger than a quarter in size. For students with multiple piercings, only one set of earrings may be worn in the ear lobe. Multiple earrings may not be worn on any part of the ear. Students will not be allowed to wear any gauges. One small stud nose piercings is permitted. Other facial or tongue piercings will not be allowed. Discrete clear spacers are permitted.
- **HAIR** – Hair may not be worn in spiked or unnatural styles or colors. Hair is defined as unnatural if a teen-age human being is not able to grow that color or shade of hair. Hair must not cover eyes/face. Hair styles must exude the professionalism that the uniform policy seeks to impart. Any hair accessories must be red, black or white and be small and conservative in nature. No headbands will be worn across the forehead. If any student's hair is deemed unprofessional by school officials, they will be expected to get a haircut or change the hair style as soon as possible or they may be required to attend an alternative placement until such time as their hair meets standards.
- **FACIAL HAIR** – Facial hair is expected to always remain groomed.
- **HATS** – No caps or hats of any sort are to be worn while on campus unless weather dictates cold weather hats outside the building.
- **MAKE-UP** – If a student chooses to wear make-up, it should be natural and professional, not excessive in color or application.



- **NAILS** – Artificial / Natural Nails will extend no further than 1 inch from the fingertip and will not be shaped to form a point at the tip. If the student chooses to wear polish or designs on the nails, it should not be excessive.
- **ACCESSORIES** - If tights or hose are worn under a skirt, they must be plain, without pattern or design. All hair accessories must be red, black or white and minimal in nature. No colored wrist bands, neck beads, head bands, bandanas or doo rags are allowed. Any staff member has a right to stop any pattern, for example groups wearing identical chains, bracelets, etc. or anything that may be mistaken for gang affiliation.

Free Dress Expectations – Senior Dress Code

For free dress days, students are still required to dress in a manner appropriate for a professional setting. This would be the equivalent of a relaxed dress day in a professional setting. Any clothing or accessories which are deemed inappropriate, distracting or impeding the educational process will result in a directive to immediately cover or remove clothing item or accessory.

Unacceptable clothing and accessories include, but are not limited to:

- Excessively tight jeans (skinny jeans, jeggings), leggings, yoga pants
- Joggers and capris
- Gang related attire
- Tank tops of any kind
- Halter and shoulderless tops
- Biking shorts
- Sports jerseys
- Sweat pants
- Excessively tight or revealing clothing
- Clothing that exposes the stomach or midriff
- Low-cut blouses
- Excessive or non-professional earrings
- Any facial piercings of any sort
- Spiked jewelry
- Spiked or unnatural hair styles or colors
- Slippers and/or pajamas
- Chains
- No excessively ripped clothing (any rips must not show skin)
- Any clothing or accessories promoting:
 - Drugs
 - Sexual activity
 - Violence
 - Disrespect or bigotry toward any group