Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences 2985 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48207 (313) 259-1744 (313) 393-0460 FAX www.daasdistrict.org



August 1, 2023

Dear DAAS Parents, Scholars, and Staff:

Hello DAAS Family! We are so excited to have your scholar with us here at Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences. A few months ago, we sent out surveys to our parents and scholars asking for your thoughts on our Uniform Policy. As a result, we have relaxed the policy and made a few modifications. Please see our New Policy below along with other important information:

## **School Uniform Policy**

All scholars must come to school in the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform every day. If a scholar arrives at school out of uniform, parents will be notified and asked what support is needed to ensure their child is able to wear the proper uniform. We have a required school uniform for several very important reasons:

- 1. **Uniforms unite us as a community**. When you look at the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences shirts, it is a powerful visual statement of our community. Scholars make a commitment that when they put on the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform, they are agreeing to live up to the school's values.
- 2. Uniforms reduce distractions and clothing competition. Often scholars spend more time discussing and evaluating what others are wearing or not wearing than they spend focusing on learning. Wearing uniforms eliminates this distraction.
- 3. **Uniforms make us all equal**. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the scholars come to school looking the same way. No one is made to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- 4. **Uniforms look professional**. Scholars look neat when they arrive at school with shirts tucked into their pants. This encourages scholars to come mentally prepared for school and "dressed for work."

Scholars may not change out of the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform at any point during the school day unless approved by school administration.

## **General Uniform Requirements:**

**JACKETS**: Students may not wear jackets inside the school building. If a scholar is worried about being cold inside the building, he or she should wear their white, blue or black hoodie or sweater. We also encourage scholars to wear thermals under their school attire for extra comfortability.

JEWELRY/Accessories: We would prefer it if scholars did not wear jewelry. Large earrings, multiple chains or rings, and bracelets distract from the uniform. In addition, such items can get lost or stolen. If a scholar chooses to wear jewelry, it must be modest. Scholars may wear only one chain or necklace, and it must be tucked neatly under their uniform shirt. If a scholar wears jewelry that the Administrative Team considers excessive, then the scholar will be asked to remove it.

**HATS**: Scholars are not allowed to wear baseball hats, hair bonnets, headbands, do-rags, bandanas in the building. Small clips or bands for the hair are permitted.

**MAKE-UP**: Make-up is not allowed (lipstick, eye shadow etc.) unless approved for school related performances.

## **Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences Uniform:**

The components of the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform are as follows:

**Tops:** Blue, Black or White short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt. The polo shirt can have a university/college logo. Polo shirts that have any large writing or other symbols are not allowed.

Blue, Black or White sweaters and thermals are optional. Hoodies are allowed as part of the uniform. Hoods are not to be worn in the school building during the school day. Hoodies that have any large logos, writing, or other symbols are not allowed.

**Bottoms:** Jeans, khaki, black or navy blue slacks or skirts. Jeans with rips or tears must be worn with legging, no skin exposed. Jean skirts or shorts are not allowed. Uniform skirts (should be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee). Bottoms should not be too baggy or too tight.

• Tights, leggings, yoga pants, jeggings, tank tops or any other tight pants or shirts are NOT allowed.

**Shoes:** Sneakers or dress shoes with laces that are tied or have Velcro are allowed to be worn to school each day. Shoes and socks must have appropriate designs. No high heels, flip flops, crocs or sandals are allowed.