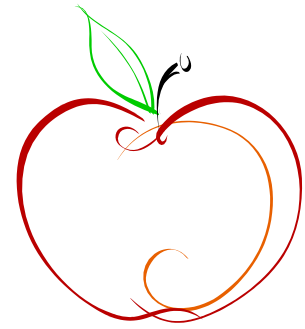


3400 N. California St., Rm. 54
El Monte, CA 91731
January 9, 2009



Ms. Maribel Garcia
Columbia School
3400 N. California St.
El Monte, CA 91731

Dear Ms. Garcia,

As you know, I have been teaching at Columbia School for many years. Looking back through old yearbooks, I have certainly seen many styles come and go. But one thing is constant: staff members who dress professionally present a superior image to our community, set a fine example for our students, and seem to strive to do their best. Therefore, I propose that we create and adopt a Columbia School Staff Dress Code.

Let me explain.

First, by having an appropriate faculty dress code, our school will present a superior image to the community. Parents who visit our campus will be assured that our staff takes its job seriously. When members of the community such as delivery persons and civic leaders come to our school and see a professionally attired adult work force, they will leave with a good impression and take that impression back to their workplaces. I know it may sound a bit trite, but we can use all the good PR we can get.

Second, teachers who adhere to a staff dress code will set a fine example for our students. Television, movies and videos have a tremendous influence on our student population. Sadly, much of that influence is negative. Our students need to be in daily contact with adults who set high standards for themselves and well as the students they serve. We need to be the best role models possible.

My third reason for this proposition is the most abstract and is perhaps difficult to prove. It is this: dress and appearance affect behavior. I see it every day in my students. I believe it is also true of our staff. If we want every adult to do their best in service to the students of this community, then it should be required that we look our best. How we look affects how we feel about ourselves. How we feel about ourselves affects how we perform our jobs. Looking our best brings out our best.

I realize there would be obstacles in drafting such a dress code. Implementation may also be difficult at first, particularly because so many teachers have dressed so casually for so long. But most teachers would agree if reasoned with, and the end result would definitely be worth it.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience so that we may set up a meeting and begin this exciting, challenging project.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kania