

**“The Right Threads = The Right Classroom Atmosphere”**

*What You Wear Affects What You Accomplish as a Business Teacher*

## **NBEA FASHION SHOW**



**April 1, 2010  
2:30 – 3:30 pm  
San Diego Marriott Hotel**

### **Emcee Presenters**

**Patricia Arneson and Sue Sydow  
Wayne State College of Nebraska**

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MODELS**

**Patricia Arneson** – Wayne State College/Nebraska

**Murleen Bellinger** - Waverly (Nebraska) High School

**Dawn Friedrich** – Wausa (Nebraska) High School

**Madge Gregg** – Hoover (Alabama) High School

**DeLayne Havlovic** – Omaha (Nebraska) Public Schools

**Maurice Henderson** – Eastern Michigan University

**Ann Kieser** – Southern Tioga (Pennsylvania) School District

**Dennis Krejci** – Tri-County (Nebraska) High School

**Toni Landenberger** – Southeast Community College/Nebraska

**Bill Latta** – University of Nebraska/Lincoln

**Kelly Means** - Omaha (Nebraska) Public Schools

**Carol Sessums** – Sangre de Cristo (Colorado) High School

**Bonnie Sibert** – Nebraska Department of Business Education

**Sue Sydow** – Wayne State College/Nebraska

**Pat Thieben** – Iowa Department of Education



## Part I: Introduction

**Sue:** Welcome to our presentation today focusing on expectations for professional attire for business educators. Our fashion show is intended to demonstrate how you can dress professionally and appropriately on a budget.

We are pleased that you have joined us and hope you will find the tips and suggestions helpful when selecting clothing for your professional teaching wardrobe.

My name is **Sue Sydow**. After 34 years of teaching high school in Lyons, Nebraska, I retired for one day before being hired as Director of Assessment at Wayne State College. I have witnessed . . . and worn . . . many fashion trends during my years of teaching.

**Pat:** And I'm **Patricia Arneson**, professor of Business Education at Wayne State College. A former high school teacher as well, I now prepare students for student teaching and their future classrooms. Through my years of teaching, I also have witnessed . . . and worn . . . many fashion do's and don'ts for teachers! We learn from our mistakes, right?

**Sue:** Wouldn't everyone like to wear sweatshirts, jeans, tennis shoes or flip flops to work? When you are a business teacher, such luxuries are completely out of the question! Our students and their parents, our administrators, and the greater community all need to trust us to be mature, professional, capable and competent! Like it or not, our outer appearance is their first indicator of these inner characteristics.

**Pat:** This session explores four considerations when choosing teacher attire:

- 1) **Professionalism** – do we represent the business education teaching profession appropriately and serve as a model for our students?
- 2) **Comfort** – let's face it, teaching is definitely a physical activity!
- 3) **Individual personality** as expressed through our clothing, and
- 4) **Budgetary restraints**. Dressing professionally doesn't need to equate with dressing expensively. Sales, end-of-season clearances, and even consignment store shopping are all ways to extend your budget and wardrobe. One well-known women's franchise store offers special discounts for teachers.

**Sue:** We have asked NBEA members from all over the country to model their own clothing, representing the four styles of attire in today's work and teaching environment:

- 1) *Professional Business Attire*
- 2) *Standard Teacher Attire*
- 3) *Business Casual Teacher Attire*
- 4) *Casual Fridays/Spirit Day Attire*

Our models' names are listed on the back of the program. Sit back and relax while your teaching colleagues stroll down the runway to model fashion "do's and don'ts" of professional and casual dress for the business classroom without breaking the budget. Let's give our models an encouraging round of applause in advance! (**APPLAUSE**)

## **Part II: The Main Event—the Fashion Show**

### **PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS ATTIRE**

**Pat:** Professional Business for men usually means a two-piece suit, long-sleeved dress shirt and tie. Belt and shoes should match, and men's socks should coordinate with the slacks. For women, a skirt or dress pants with matching long-sleeve jacket and tailored blouse is appropriate. Of course, the shoes should be a closed-toe pump worn with neutral hosiery.

Our emcee **Sue Sydow** is our first model. Sue is dressed for success demonstrating **Professional Business** attire.

*Sue is wearing a two-piece black tailored pantsuit ordered through a mail order catalog with online ordering as well. Sue took advantage of a catalog special of 40% off the highest priced item ordered. Both the jacket and pants are washable. This suit is a good investment as it is season-less and always a classic. Sue has chosen a simple black and white shell purchased at a local clothing store in Wayne, Nebraska, and black heels to complete her business professional look. Sue can change the appearance of her suit by wearing different shell tops or blouses or by adding a scarf or changing her accessory jewelry.*

A tip for women is that professional dress requires a long-sleeve jacket to complement or match the dress pants or skirt. If wearing a skirt, neutral skin-tone hosiery should be worn with mid- to low heels. If the pump is not completely

enclosed at both heel and toe, then only one opening should be present—either toe or heel, but not both. Jewelry should be simple, classic and understated.

**Pat: DeLayne Havlovic** is modeling men’s Professional Business attire. DeLayne is a former business teacher for Omaha Public Schools who now serves as an OPS curriculum consultant.

*DeLayne is modeling an immaculate Professional Business look. DeLayne loves to bargain hunt Banana Republic for his suits. With the combination of 30% off price reductions and credit card reward coupons, this suit with an original price of \$448 cost him just \$140. His single-breasted modern-fit suit is a good cut for young professionals. This suit fabric is an all-season 100% worsted wool. The notched lapel, two-button closure jacket has front flat pockets for a smooth slim look and a back vent for ease of comfort. The coat sleeves are accentuated with 3 buttons, with the dress shirt extending ¼” below. His trousers are flat front. DeLayne has chosen a lavender shirt with a striking black and purple striped tie in a diagonal-pattern. DeLayne prefers a fitted dress shirt as it best suits his body shape and size. Note that he has complemented his outfit with basic black socks, polished black slip-on dress shoes and the black side of a reversible belt, all of which can be matched to many of his professional ensembles. To further accessorize his suit, DeLayne could add a colored silk handkerchief in the breast pocket of the jacket to pull off his flawless business appearance.*

Tips for professional menswear include the following:

- Mens’ pants styles can be cuffed or uncuffed. Cuffed legs add weight to the suit and can make the leg seem shorter. Uncuffed pants elongate the leg.
- Men’s socks should coordinate with the slacks color and be mid-calf or higher in length. Men, we don’t want to see those hairy legs!
- Remember to match the belt to the color of your shoes. Choose black if your outfit consists of dark grays, navys, browns or black. Opt for dark brown if you’ll be wearing tans, muted pastels or medium-toned colors.
- Tips: Always wear the bottom button of a suit jacket unbuttoned. To keep your suit from creasing in your closet, hang the suit coat unbuttoned.
- A budget-saving tip is to create multiple outfits from one suit. For example, the jacket can be worn with other slacks, or the slacks combined with a sweater or

sweater vest to turn a Business Professional into less formal Business Teacher attire.

**Sue:** Everyone in Nebraska knows that no one epitomizes the word “professional” more than our own Bonnie Sibert, Career Field Specialist for Business, Marketing and Management at the Nebraska Department of Education. Bonnie interacts with business teachers on a daily basis in her job, and she teaches Business Methods at the University of Nebraska to future business teachers!

*Bonnie is wearing a designer label pant suit and blouse purchased on sale for \$110 at a national retail department store. Her gray plaid suit is a houndstooth pattern that is a 50% polyester and 50% wool blend. A blue blouse completes the outfit. Bonnie can dress her suit up or down by alternating shoes and accessories. Today she is wearing a casual pair of grey flats but often wears heels to fit most occasions.*

Bonnie’s wardrobe choice demonstrates that you can wear clothes that are both professional and fashionable, as well as comfortable! Dress to suit your personality while keeping in mind professional standards.

**Pat:** Our next model is **Pat Thieben**, a Career and Technical Education consultant for the Iowa Department of Education.

*Pat loves to mix and match and especially loves to find a “deal.” Her jacket was purchased new at a consignment store for only \$20. Her blouse was a \$15 sale item at an up-scale women’s franchise retailer that gives gift coupons to customers based on the use of their charge card. Her \$25 slacks were purchased on sale at a women’s retail franchise store that provides email discount coupons to teachers. Pat’s entire outfit was purchased new for \$60. She can change tops, shoes and accessories to get a different look. She is wearing comfortable red heels purchased at a discount shoe retailer that complements the red in her outfit. As you can see, Pat is ready to consult with business teachers!*

**Sue: Dawn Friedrich**, a high school business teacher and volleyball coach from Wausa, Nebraska, models our last entry for **Professional Business**. As you can see, Dawn is ready to assume her duties as President of the Nebraska Business Education Association in June.

*Dawn is wearing a dress pant set whose tweed jacket has a unique salt-and-pepper eyelash yarn on every edge. The open-front, three-quarter-sleeve jacket pairs*

*perfectly with the pants, whose smooth lines come courtesy of a bandless waist. This outfit was purchased at a nationally franchised women's retail store that always includes \$25 discount coupons in its catalogs. Her entire outfit, including shoes, was purchased for approximately \$120. The entire suit is machine washable. Dawn has accessorized her outfit with a white sleeveless shell. To complete her business look, Dawn has chosen a black slip-on wedge shoe.*

### **STANDARD TEACHER ATTIRE**

**Sue:** We will now move on to **Standard Teacher Attire**. For men, this means nice slacks with ironed crease, flat or pleated front, and straight or cuffed slacks, paired with a long or short-sleeved collared dress shirt with optional tie. A sport coat or sweater can be added. For women, **Standard Attire** usually means dress pants, skirt (but not too short!), and an appropriate blouse, but not sleeveless.

*Our other emcee, **Patricia Arneson**, didn't have to leave her small town of 6,000 to find her teaching attire. With the exception of her shoes and slacks, everything Pat is wearing today was purchased at the only retail store on Main Street in Wayne, Nebraska. Pat is ready to teach her business classes wearing permanent press black dress pants, black-white animal print shell with mini pleats and cap sleeves, and 2 1/2" black leather pumps. The coordinated jewelry includes a hand-made glass necklace accented with Swarovski crystals and matching dangle earrings. To visit schools to observe student teachers, Pat can easily professionalize her outfit by slipping on the unlined white cotton spandex jacket with three-quarter vented cuffed sleeves, adorned with a unique black zipper pin. She has stashed her teacher observations forms into an over-sized canary yellow handbag with coordinated black/white trim that complements the shell and jewelry. This small-town retailer attracts shoppers from miles around due to extensive email promotions and punch card discounts. Look out, San Diego, if Pat Arneson joins Pat Thieben and Bonnie Sibert to shop for bargains during convention!*

The retail store owner, a former teacher herself, wanted to share with our audience that the biggest mistake that younger professional women make is wearing clothing that is too tight and too revealing for the work environment. Her other observation is that younger professionals are not familiar with what to look for when selecting quality shoes and clothing, often sacrificing quality and wear for what's trendy.

**Sue:** When asked to participate in our fashion show, our next model quickly responded, "Yes! It has always been my dream to be a runway model!"

*Carol Sessums, business teacher from Sangre de Cristo High School in rural Colorado, commands the fashion runway wearing an entire outfit discounted down from \$100 to \$30 at the end-of-season sale at a franchise women's store that is often nicknamed, "the teacher's store." If you are from the Midwest, you'll know which store Carol is referring to!*

*Mocha-colored slacks of 100% cotton are paired with a rust-colored shell in a blend of cotton and spandex. Both pieces coordinate nicely with her tan, brown and rust-patterned jacket made of cotton and spandex. A simple brown belt and shoes, along with a whimsy of jewelry, completes her outfit. An added bonus is that all pieces are machine washable and can be worn with other items in Carol's closet.*

**Pat: Dennis Krejci** is ready to teach business classes and supervise student teachers at Tri-County High School in Nebraska.

*Dennis is modeling a Standard Teacher look that includes a long-sleeved white dress shirt accented with grey and black stripes. His pleated trousers are black in color and designed for a relaxed fit. He has chosen a black leather belt with a small silver buckle. His black leather oxford shoes add a polished look to his appearance. In his role as national secretary-treasurer to the NBEA executive board, Dennis can easily upgrade to professional business attire by simply adding a tie, sport coat or suit jacket and carrying a leather briefcase!*

Business Standard is simply another term for high-level Business Casual and includes tailored separates, such as dress trousers, dressy collared shirts that do not require a tie, fine knit shirts and sweaters, as well as sport coats or jackets.

**Sue:** Our next model is **Murleen Bellinger**, who is "all business" modeling **Standard Teacher** attire appropriate for her Waverly, Nebraska, high school classroom. Murleen was the 2007 National Secondary Business Teacher of the Year. She will take over as the 2010 President-Elect for the Mountain-Plains Business Education Association in June.

*Murleen looks sharp wearing navy slacks, green blouse, and navy blue jacket in a checked pattern of coordinated colors in white, green, and varying shades of blue. Murleen feels good when she looks good, adding to her confidence in the classroom. Like our previous model Carol Sessums of Colorado, Murleen also purchased her complete outfit on sale at "the teacher's store" for less than \$75. Her teaching day will be comfortable when wearing flat shoes in a navy blue color.*

*Murleen accessorized her ensemble with a beaded navy blue necklace with matching earrings. Murleen tries to buy clothes within her teaching budget that are hand or machine washable.*

Tip for women: Make sure that your accessory jewelry is simple, understated and appropriate for teacher attire. Save the “bling” for “evening”!

**Pat:** Our next model to take the fashion runway is **Madge Gregg**, the current president-elect to NBEA! Madge is wearing **Standard Teacher** attire appropriate for her high school business classroom at Hoover, Alabama, High School.

*Madge is wearing a two-piece tailored pant suit styled with a contrasting look. A framed black and white microdot jacket pairs well with her solid black pants. The suit is fully lined and the jacket features two front flap pockets and round black buttons.*

*Madge purchased this suit at a major department store during their “\$99 suit days sale” and, after using a 20% off coupon, paid only \$79. Living in Alabama, this is the perfect suit for Madge--the weight of the fabric can be worn all year ‘round—making this ensemble a great value.*

*Madge is wearing black patent sling back pumps with a 1 ½” heel. Her accessories include a single strand of pearls and pearl earrings. This suit can easily take Madge from her classroom to an after school business advisory board meeting.*

### **BUSINESS CASUAL TEACHER ATTIRE**

**Sue:** Our third category of teacher attire is **Business Casual**, which usually includes khakis, chinos, or Dockers-style slacks, collared polos or shirts, but usually no tie. All shirts should be tucked into slacks, and please, men! No Hawaiian-style shirts or carpenter-type pants or blue jeans! Men’s shoes could include leather slip-ons and even certain types of leather tailored deck shoes.

For women, casual slacks and even tailored capris, if worn below the knee, are appropriate. Hosiery is not usually worn. Shoes may be flats or low heeled-pumps, but not flip flops, sandals, open-back heels, Crocs™, or exercise tennis shoes. Blue jeans would NOT be appropriate.

**Pat:** Our next model is **Maurice Henderson** of Eastern Michigan University. Maurice is the State Director of Business Professionals of America in Michigan. A former high school business teacher, Maurice's current position allows him to interact with both students and teachers.

*Maurice's Business Casual outfit is perfect for a laid-back day in the office without any meetings or other important events. Maurice takes the runway wearing navy blue slacks with a coordinated patterned collared dress shirt accented with a navy blue sweater vest, no tie! His slip-on shoes are both casual and dressy at the same time. Maurice's outfit, excluding the shoes, cost approximately \$50 (\$26 slacks, \$16 shirt, and \$9 vest), proving that men can bargain shop as well as women!*

**Sue:** **Ann Kieser** of Southern Tioga School District in Pennsylvania models Business Casual for women. Ann is a secondary business teacher at Mansfield High School and represents the Eastern region on the NBEA Board.

*Ann is wearing an outfit found on the end-of-season sale rack from an upscale women's retailer that offers teacher discounts. In fact, if you have this store's credit card, they will send you a sticker to attach so you always get a 15% discount! Ann's motto is never pay full retail price! This outfit was a bargain at a total of \$50, including shoes and accessories. The chino trousers are made of cotton stretch, allowing for comfort and style. The pants sit just below the waist and feature wide belt loops, two front pockets and tonal buttons. The cardigan worn over the print top allows her to stay comfortable in the transitioning spring weather and between classrooms of different temperatures. Her scoop neck top is a washable polyester blend. The ruffled sleeves add attractive flow and flair to the outfit. The outfit is complete with brown shoes and fun accessories.*

**Sue:** Our last model for **Business Casual** is **Kelly Means**, business teacher at Omaha Central High School. She also serves as Treasurer for the Nebraska State Business Education Association. Kelly proves again that business teachers are adept at applying Personal Finance skills with power shopping to dress sharply and appropriately within a budget—in this case, for less than \$75!

*Kelly looks sharp in black Capri pants of polyester/rayon/spandex blend that she purchased on sale at a local department store for less than \$20. She has paired the capris with (1) a dark pink casual tee with accompanying light-weight black sweater with small pattern and diamond-accent buttons, also purchased from a department store clearance rack OR (2) a black dress shirt and pink jacket, which she borrowed from another outfit in her closet. Kelly's jewelry is a 3-strand black*

*bead necklace with matching earrings, also purchased on clearance for less than \$10. Comfortable yet fashionable black flats complete Kelly's Business Casual look.*

Kelly's appropriate choice proves that capris can be appropriate and don't need to be "capricious" in the classroom!

### **CASUAL FRIDAYS AND/OR SPIRIT DAYS**

**Pat:** Many people wrongly confuse Business Casual with **Casual Fridays**. Our research indicates that although "Casual Fridays" still exist in both business as well as education work environments, they are diminishing in popularity among both employers and school systems due to apparent confusion over what to wear or not to wear. Many school dress codes now clearly spell out what can and cannot be worn for **Casual Friday** and **Spirit Days**.

Although most teachers don't wear uniforms, whereas their students might, teachers nonetheless do have a 'teacher uniform' of sorts. Yes, we call them our "**school clothes**," referring to what we usually wear to work. We rarely wear our school clothes for weekend or social events; likewise, we should never wear our leisure or social clothes to work!

The lines between "appropriate" and "inappropriate" seem to have become blurred in recent years. "Casual Fridays" perhaps should be renamed "Too Casual Fridays!" More and more schools report people coming to school in various states of dress or undress and are writing or re-writing dress codes to address the problem. Oh, yes, students continue to dress inappropriately too! As a result, colleges and universities preparing future teachers now address dress codes before sending their students off to student teach.

**Sue:** **Toni Landenberger**, information technology instructor at Southeast Community College in Nebraska, models appropriate **Casual Friday** attire for the classroom.

*Toni is ready for an active day in her computer classrooms wearing a red collared polo shirt made of 100% cotton with the college name embroidered on the chest. She purchased the shirt from the college bookstore, using her faculty discount, for \$30. Her blue jeans were purchased on sale at a national retailer found in every mall for \$39. Toni completes her outfit with comfortable brown suede slip-ons*

*purchased for \$45. She's ready to scoot around her computer lab to assist students!*

**Sue:** **Bill Latta** of the University of Nebraska demonstrates proper **Spirit Day** attire. Bill directs the Business Education program at UNL and serves as an appropriate role model for his future student teachers.

*On the Friday before the big game, Bill is wearing dress blue jeans paired with a collared UNL embroidered polo shirt. Yes, at Nebraska, every game is a big game! His jeans and shirt were purchased for less than \$100. Bill completes his look with a belt and comfortable loafer-style walking shoes purchased for about \$65. Bill exudes Big Red spirit, both in the business classroom as well as at Memorial Stadium!*

**Casual Fridays** and **Spirit Days** for both men and women usually means 'nice' jeans as opposed to every day faded jeans, collared or collar-less shirts, school logo shirts, but no tee shirts or shirts with wording or print advertising. Again, leave those beach shoes, worn-out tennis, and Crocs™ at home! And women, those camisoles, tank tops, or other sleeveless blouses are still taboo!

### **Part III. That's a Runway Wrap!**

**Pat:** Before we end our Fashion Show, we'd like to share with you the contents of the CD you will receive. It contains a copy of our script, in case you want to modify what we have done to put on a "Dress for Success" at the student level.

In addition, we have included PDF copies of two pamphlets, provided with permission from the Howard County School system, the largest system in Maryland and ranked #1 academically in the nation by Business Week magazine. You will enjoy reading these publications on dress codes and sharing them with your own school system. Finally, the CD contains links and websites for information and articles dealing with student dress codes as well as faculty and school dress codes. Our CD is meant to be a resource for you.

**Sue:** And now, before adjourning for the afternoon, we ask our models to walk the runway aisle one more time! *After models walk the aisle . . . . (APPLAUSE)*

**Pat:** This concludes our presentation. Thank you all for coming, and we hope you enjoyed the show!

## Resources

### FBLA-PBL Dress Code Websites

- [http://fbla.org/web/page/617/sectionid/614/main\\_interior.asp](http://fbla.org/web/page/617/sectionid/614/main_interior.asp)  
**FBLA-PBL National Dress code for Students and Sponsors.** The purpose of the dress code is to uphold the professional image of the association and its members and to prepare students for the business world.
- [http://www.nebraskafbla.org/pdf/Prof\\_Dress-FBLA.pdf](http://www.nebraskafbla.org/pdf/Prof_Dress-FBLA.pdf)  
**Nebraska’s FBLA “Dress for Success” online handbook (2004-05)**
- <http://www.gafbla.org/fbla/DressCode/tabid/65/Default.aspx>  
**Georgia’s FBLA “Dress for Success” online handbook (2007)**  
Image means a lot in today's society. What do Nebraska and Georgia handbooks say about the Dress Code? Guidelines for students and FBLA advisors, plus sample pictures.

### General “Dress for Success” Websites

**About.com** websites below provide info and photo galleries for **Professional Business, Business Casual, and Relaxed Business Casual (Casual Fridays)** for employees:

- [http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress\\_formal.htm](http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress_formal.htm)  
**About.Com’s link to Dress for Work Success: A Professional Business Dress Code**
- [http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress\\_code.htm](http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress_code.htm)  
**About.Com’s link to Dress for Work Success: A Business Casual Dress Code**
- [http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress\\_casual.htm](http://humanresources.about.com/od/workrelationships/a/dress_casual.htm)  
**About.Com’s link to Dress for Work Success: Relaxed Business Casual (aka Casual Fridays)**

### “Dress for Success” for Just-For-Men Websites

<http://www.dressforsuccess.com/index2.html>

Explore the basic business wardrobe for men at this fabulous website—brief descriptions of the basics of purchasing (1) suits, (2) dress shirts, and (3) how to tie a tie! You can order the entire **Men’s Style Video** for \$19.95 from their website: <http://www.dressforsuccess.com/order.html>.

### School Dress Code (Faculty) Websites

<http://www.slideshare.net/siddharth4mba/what-teachers-should-never-ever-wear>

**What Teachers Should Never (Ever) Wear!** If you don’t go any further in our resource list than this website, be sure you check out the 26-slide photo gallery of WHAT NOT to wear for Teachers! Not only is it true, it drives home the point while really being fun(ny).

<http://www.teacherscount.org/best/clothing.shtml>

**Teachers Count: Learn a Thing or Two About Teacher Clothing.**

*Teachers Count* has compiled an *awesome*, interesting and useful list of all the stores that cater to teachers, including teacher discounts. You will *definitely* want to check out this list!

[http://www.online-distance-learning-education.com/article\\_info.php/articles\\_id/25](http://www.online-distance-learning-education.com/article_info.php/articles_id/25)

*eTools4 Education* summary of the importance of appropriate dress for teachers.

## School Dress Code (Faculty) Websites

[http://www.lasallepsb.com/teacher\\_dress\\_code](http://www.lasallepsb.com/teacher_dress_code)

**LaSalle Parish (Louisiana) Teacher Dress Code (2009-2010)** LaSalle Parish teachers and administrators have traditionally upheld high standards of professionalism, including that of appropriate, professional attire. LaSalle's one-page policy is short, concise, and complete! Check it out!

<http://www2.timesdispatch.com/rtd/news/opinion/columnists/article/ED->

[HINKLE21\\_20090720-180003/281077/](http://www2.timesdispatch.com/rtd/news/opinion/columnists/article/ED-HINKLE21_20090720-180003/281077/) **Satirical news article from the Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch** about Henrico County (Virginia) Public School System's 2009 teacher dress code.

[http://www.usatoday.com/life/2003-08-20-dress-code\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/life/2003-08-20-dress-code_x.htm)

**USA Today article, "Schools Enforce Dress Codes – For Teachers"** When it comes to school clothes, fresh-out-of-college teachers are having a hard time making the transition from the back of classroom to the front, shedding the skimpy, trendy duds of their dorm days and adopting a more modest, professional profile. In response, administrators are drafting written and oral dress codes.

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/0915dnmetteacher\\_dress.325d576.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/0915dnmetteacher_dress.325d576.html) **Dallas Morning News online article, "Districts on Teacher Dress: Some Have Class,"** with links to various teacher dress codes in selected Texas schools.

[http://www.proteacher.org/c/721\\_Teacher\\_Clothes.html](http://www.proteacher.org/c/721_Teacher_Clothes.html)

**Teacher Clothes** blog regarding what teachers wear! An interesting read!

[http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2132335/top\\_10\\_tips\\_for\\_teachers\\_what\\_to\\_wear.html?cat=3](http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2132335/top_10_tips_for_teachers_what_to_wear.html?cat=3) **"How to Look Professional from Day One--Top 10 Tips for Teachers"**

The first thing to be aware of is that you are a role model and not a fashion model at the front of the room. This is about creating a good impression, the right impression and not looking as if you have just stepped out of a fashion magazine.

[http://www2.dothaneagle.com/dea/news/education/article/dothan\\_city\\_school\\_board\\_oks\\_employee\\_dress\\_code/69239/](http://www2.dothaneagle.com/dea/news/education/article/dothan_city_school_board_oks_employee_dress_code/69239/)

**Dothan City School Board OKs Employee Dress Code (2009)** Dothan City Schools (Alabama) adopts dress code for its teachers and staff, barring certain items of clothing and footwear, including flip-flops and Crocs™. The push for an employee dress code came in the aftermath of a policy requiring Dothan City students to wear uniforms. Check out the entire policy at:

[http://static.mgnetwork.com/dea/content/news/dress\\_code.pdf](http://static.mgnetwork.com/dea/content/news/dress_code.pdf).

## PDF Pamphlets of Howard County (Maryland) School Dress Code

Howard County School system is the largest system in Maryland and ranked #1 in the nation academically by Business Week magazine. Howard County Schools has over 50,000 students and 8,000 employees. After asking students, "How do you feel when teachers dress inappropriately?" As a result, the school put on its first "Teacher Fashion Show" similar to ours in August 2009 to demonstrate their newly imposed dress code for school staff, which completely banned Casual Fridays and Spirit Days. You will enjoy reading the details of their new dress code for staff and faculty in these publications and sharing them with your own school system. (Reprinted with permission).