

A vague but necessary dress code

by Julia Patton

Dress Codes are often debated in schools especially high school.

In the case of New Trier, our dress code, while more lenient and open to interpretation than that of other schools, still works towards the purpose of preparing young adults for life beyond high school.

The question that remains, however, is whether the installment of a dress code infringes too much on the rights of the student body, or if it is for the betterment of the learning environment.

The dress code, as stated by the 2014-2015 Guidebook, bars any "modes of dress or appearance that are clearly disruptive and disturbing to the progress of the educational environment," along with clothing pertaining to drugs, alcohol, or gang symbols.

There are some issues with this present dress code at New Trier, namely the vagueness of some parts of it.

"A student could go into their first period class and the teacher has a different threshold for what is disruptive than maybe the seventh period teacher does, and that's confusing for students,"

said Scott Williams, the Assistant Principal for Administrative Services.

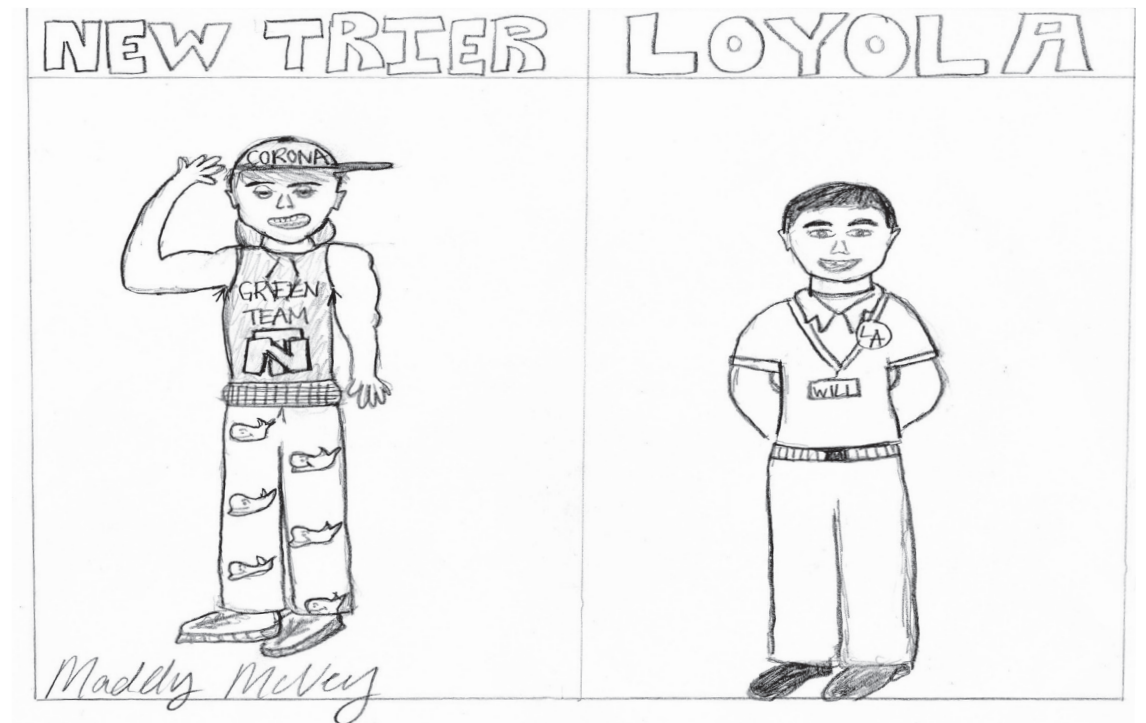
Dress codes are devised in schools for a variety of reasons. Some can be for student safety or comfort, as in the case of the dress code's ban against drug, alcohol, or gang related messages, while others help create the learning environment.

"To help give some structure to what's appropriate to wear at school we just want to make sure the policy is there. So that people know what the expectation is so that they can follow it," said Sophomore Girls Adviser Chair Susie Paunan.

If students at New Trier feel that the dress code is unfair or too restrictive, students need to realize that New Trier has a very lenient dress code compared to other schools, which ban much more specific articles of clothing or styles.

"We haven't had a student-related behavioral issue that's lead to us having a more strict and restrictive dress code," said Williams. For instance New Trier Township does not struggle with gang violence, and this allows for less dress code regulations.

One particular argument against dress codes in high



schools is that they can restrict the freedom of expression. The important thing here is that the intention of a policy like this is not to restrict a student's ability to create their own personal image or to express themselves, but to both foster a beneficial learning environment and prepare students for a life past high school.

"It's about preparing you for the future. If I showed up for

school in something that is not appropriate for the workplace, that's going to put me in a bad place," said Williams.

"I think it's important to have a clear policy, so that our learning environment can be safe for all students," said Paunan. The dress code is not put in place to restrict student rights, but to help them as they grow and learn.

Although it may restrict

some parts of their lifestyle, it does so with the best interest of the students in mind.

"It's about teaching," said Williams, "I don't look at it as a restrictive policy in the sense that I'm trying to take away your rights. I look at it as a policy that helps establish right habits of mind."

In the News: Tom DeLuca preview

Sarah McAtamny

Nationally recognized hypnotist Tom DeLuca will be performing at New Trier Nov. 15 in benefit for Habitat for Humanity, the senior class service project.

DeLuca has been coming to New Trier for the last 12 years, according to Chris Pearson, Senior Boys Adviser Chair.

The show consists entirely of hypnosis; DeLuca chooses 20 seniors from the audience to hypnotize during the show.

Although he only chooses seniors to be hypnotized, every student is encouraged to go to the show, according to Pearson.

"All of the proceeds from the show go towards Habitat for Humanity and it's a really fun way to kick off the fundraising part of the service project," said Pearson.

DeLuca has been practicing hypnosis since he was in college and had a professor who was a psychologist. The psychologist had a clinic and he trained DeLuca, who then developed his own show based on the experience he had interacting with patients. "When I perform hypnosis, I'm accessing the subconscious deep imagination. It's like having a daydream; you are oblivious to what's going on around you because your so involved in your imagination," said DeLuca.

He explains this to the audience before asking for volunteers to be hypnotized. "Hopefully the magic happens for a good percentage of them,"



Tom DeLuca will perform at the Winnetka campus | Peterson

said DeLuca.

New Trier graduate Donna Carnow ('13) was chosen to be hypnotized when she was a senior. "He lined us up in a semi-circle and had us count backwards from 100 by 3's," said Carnow. "He told us to imagine going down a never ending escalator, and from there everything is pretty fuzzy."

Carnow adds that she really enjoyed the show and that it was an interesting experience.

All proceeds from the show go towards Habitat for Humanity. Senior presidents Riley McNulty, David Ringel, Sarah Melulis, Caroline Smith, Jack Brittingham and Anusha Gangani lead the senior class service project.

According to Melulis, Habitat for Humanity matches New Trier with a family that they have selected, and all seniors help build the family a new house. "We are really happy with the family we are working with this year. The meeting during the

senior assembly was awesome and it motivates us as a class to work harder for this deserving family," said Melulis.

This year, the goal for the entire project is to raise \$100,000, and the Tom DeLuca show is essential in meeting the goal. "It brings the whole school together to see the show," said Melulis.

DeLuca enjoys returning to New Trier because of the energy and enthusiasm of the students.

"The shows always seem to go well at New Trier, and I enjoy doing it," said DeLuca.

New Trier is one of the only high schools at which DeLuca performs. He mostly performs for businesses and colleges, but he does shows at a few prep schools in Virginia as well.

Junior Sophie Conley raved about the show, saying, "The Tom DeLuca show was so amazing last year, it's definitely something you don't want to miss."

In Sports: Field Hockey wins state

by Danni LeServe

The New Trier field hockey team bested powerhouse Lake Forest 2-1 in overtime reclaiming the state trophy for the first time since 2011. The Trevians finished with a final record of 21-2-1.

"I wasn't sure how far this team would make it, said senior attacker and captain Rachel Mirkin, "but by the end of the season we worked really well together as a team."

After losing in the state championship to the Scouts for the past three years, the Trevians were thrilled to finally capture the state championship.

"The state game was one of the most exhilarating games I've ever played in" said senior defender and captain Grace Hemmer.

The Trevians lost twice to Lake Forest in the regular season, losing by only one goal in both contests. The first time New Trier and Lake Forest faced-off at Lake Forest, the game went into overtime, ending in a shootout.

The next game, New Trier scored on a penalty stroke, but Lake Forest responded and the Scouts scored again, winning 2-1.

Thanks to the previous tight contests and the always rowdy Green Team, the stage was set for an incredible game.

Lake Forest junior Sheridan Weiss scored nine minutes into the first half. The Trevians responded when Junior attacker Sofia Crnkovich scored six minutes later off a pass from Senior attacker Lindsay Hackett, tying the game at one.

The game remained tied and went to overtime. With just seconds left in overtime, New Trier was deep in the Lake Forest zone.

Junior defender Rose Gorski passed the ball across the penalty box to Senior attacker Kitty Kenyon, who swept the ball into the back of the net with just fifteen seconds remaining, winning the game for the Trevs.

The last few seconds were the most exciting seconds of my field hockey career" said Hemmer. "



The Field Hockey team after their first place win on Nov. 1st | Minturn