

# New uniforms decided: "Dark blue & Light Gray"

# 1. Uniform Exhibit



From January 21st to February 20th, new uniform candidates were exhibited at each junior high school, the city community center, Oho Rural Women's House, and LaLaport Iwata. Explanation: Students were seen carefully reading the explanations and discussing them before making their selections.



# 2. Voting results

In addition to the exhibition, a vote was held by February 23rd by students, parents, and junior high school teachers from 4th graders at elementary schools to 3rd graders at junior high schools. The results are as follows.

A Dark blue and light gray 3696 votes (44.9%) B Dark blue and charcoal (dark gray) 3022 votes (36.7%) C Dark green and charcoal (dark gray) 1512 votes (18.4%)

As neither of the proposals received a majority, a re-vote was held between February 26 and March 3 for the top two proposals. The results of the re-vote are as follows:

A Dark blue and light gray 3154 votes (53.7%) B Dark blue and charcoal (dark gray) 2714 votes (46.3%)



## 3. Uniform Selection Committee

The Uniform Selection Committee discussed the results of the votes and the opinions received, and then made the final decision on the new uniforms. Plan A, which received the most votes in both votes, was selected.

After a survey of the opinions of the relevant elementary and junior high schools, the azalea pattern for the buttons was chosen, as it was supported by 25 out of 29 schools.

A specification sheet was then prepared to be presented to each manufacturer.



[The new uniforms have been decided]



### [Future flow]

- 1. Briefing sessions for retailers and uniform manufacturers
- 2. Discuss and report on ties, ribbons, dress shirts, etc. at each junior high school (around June)
- 3. Introduce new uniforms at entrance briefing sessions at each school
- 4. Notification from retailers and announcement of sales start date

#### We will respond to the opinions submitted to the Iwata District Uniform Selection Committee.

<u>Q: Can't parents of elementary school students and kindergarteners who will be wearing the new uniforms vote?</u> Why did you limit the voting to students from the 4th grade of elementary school to the 3rd grade of junior high school, their parents, and teachers?

A: Thank you for your opinion that we should expand the voting target for the new uniform selection.

The reason for expanding the voting target for the new uniform selection to upper elementary school students and junior high school students in addition to teachers and parents is that we judged it appropriate to reflect the opinions of junior high school students who actually wear uniforms and upper elementary school students who admire the uniforms of junior high school students, mainly from the perspective of their developmental stage. We appreciate your understanding.

#### Q: There were no unisex blazers or girls' slacks on display. What are your thoughts on uniforms in a genderless era?

A: In last year's survey by the lwata District Uniform Review Committee, there were many voices expressing a desire to be able to choose slacks or skirts at their own discretion for various reasons. In response to this, our committee places importance on consideration for diversity.

Regarding blazers, we will provide Type I, which is more suitable for boys' body types, and Type II, which is more suitable for girls' body types, and students may choose either one. We will also provide slacks for girls (also called Type II). All students will be able to freely choose and wear slacks or skirts.

Thank you very much for all the valuable opinions you have given us so far. We have taken your feedback into consideration and strived to select the best possible uniforms. This will be our last response to your opinions. Once again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has cooperated with us.

#### [In conclusion...]

Against the backdrop of rapid social change and climate change, the new uniform is being questioned from various perspectives, such as whether it will be worn based on students' autonomous choice and whether it will reduce the financial burden on parents. The Uniform Selection Committee has sincerely listened to the many opinions received in opinion surveys and opinion exchanges, reconsidered the ideal uniform, and determined the specifications for the new uniform with the following points in mind.

1. Elementary and junior high school students, parents, and teachers want a uniform that is highly functional and durable.

2. Elementary and junior high school students, parents, and teachers expect junior high school students to have a calm school life, a clean look, and dignity by wearing the new uniform.

3. Elementary and junior high school students, parents, and teachers want a uniform that looks good on everyone, regardless of gender, body type, preferences, trends, etc.

4. Public elementary and junior high school students, parents, and teachers think it is desirable for the uniform to be easy to tell that they are public junior high school students, and to be differentiated from high school and private high school uniforms.5. Parents and Teachers strongly hope that the uniforms will be affordable, as they will be worn by students attending schools that provide compulsory education.

We hope that the new uniforms will be loved by students for a long time, and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those involved in the selection of the new uniforms.

