

磐田地区公立中学校新制服に関する意識調査結果

SURVEY RESULTS ON THE NEW UNIFORMS FOR PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN THE IWATA AREA

Results of the awareness survey regarding the new uniforms for public middle schools in the Iwata area, organized by free descriptions concerning style.

1. Style and Color Preferences

A. Style

- Total for "Same Color, Plain Top and Bottom" and "Different Colors, Plain Top and Bottom"

Teachers (80%) • Elementary School Students (77%)

• Junior High School Students (72%) • Parents (63%)

*Prefer same color and plain top and bottom (41%) Prefer different colors and plain top and bottom (30%)

B. Preferences for Blazer Color

Teachers: Navy (72%)

Black (15%)

Elementary School Students: Navy (48%)

Black (27%)

Junior High School Students: Navy (45%)

Black (28%)

Parents: Navy (73%)

Black (9%)

2. Reasons for Preference for "New Uniforms for Public Junior High Schools in Iwata City" Seen in Free Description of Q4

(1) Reasons for Preference for "Same Color Plain Top and Bottom" vs. "Different Color Plain Top and Bottom"

A. Being a uniform for public junior high school students

It appears disciplined. It conveys a sense of unity. It is calm.

It is essential to clearly distinguish junior high school students at a glance from high school and private high school students.

B. It is reasonably priced (inexpensive).

Given that it is public compulsory education, consideration for economic disparity is necessary.

C. It should not be influenced by gender, body type, or preferences.

The fabric suits anyone without being affected by gender, body type, preferences, or trends.

D. Expectations of teachers and parents for junior high school students

Stable school life, cleanliness, dignity, calmness, differentiation from other cities.

(2) Reasons for Preference for "Patterned Slacks/Skirts"

A. They are cute and stylish.

B. Because children said they are cute.

C. Because parents themselves once longed for them.

D. When the uniform is stylish, it becomes enjoyable to wear.

Excerpt from the "Awareness Survey": 4) Reasons for choosing a style and opinions about uniforms (free description)

Agreement on 'monochrome of the same color above and below'

■ From Teachers Opinion

- There are instances where plain designs are more economical, and having matching colors for the top and bottom improves the overall appearance.
- They are affordable, and simplicity is preferable.
- Considering economic factors, cost-effective options are better. For blazers, simple designs without ribbons or ties are recommended. Although there are various uniforms in high school, there is no need to emphasize fashion in middle school, even when considering diversity. (a lot of people says)

■ From Elementary School Students (Boys)

- Because they are simple and ordinary. They give off a vibe of typical middle school uniforms. (many)
- They look neat and stylish.
- There is a sense of unity with the same color.
- I felt that proper attire is better.
- Adding colors could complicate stitching, and unusual colors would stand out.
- They are simple, and the cost is low.
- I personally dislike flashy styles and prefer simplicity.
- Proper formal wear looks stylish.
- Patterns appear unfashionable, so solid colors look better.

■ From Elementary School Student (female)

- Wearing the same color on top and bottom looks neat, and plain fabrics are cheaper.
- I don't particularly like patterns such as checks; it's better if the colors match.
- It was my ideal style for a blazer that I admired.
- Simplicity is the best. (Many responses)
- It is simple and easy to wear.
- The colors are also simple and do not distract from studying.
- I do not like flashy items.
- Because simplicity is good, I prefer comfortable clothing as much as possible.

- Simplicity is good because there are few children who dislike it.
- There is an image of being like a junior high school student, which feels somewhat rigid. Economically, it would be appreciated if it were a bit cheaper.
- It looks sharper if the top and bottom are the same. I think having everything in the same color looks better.
- Plain fabrics are more affordable. Navy blue seems to have the feel of a school uniform.
- Plain fabrics are cuter.

■ From Junior High School Students (Boys)

- I think the uniform should be understated and simple.
- If there are patterns, it doesn't feel like a uniform. It lacks a sense of unity and does not fit as a uniform.
- I believe having the same color for both top and bottom looks better.
- Other options with different colors for the top and bottom appear unnatural.
- As a junior high school student, I think a crisp outfit is preferable.
- A plain top and bottom are relatively inconspicuous and blend in with everyone else.
- The reason I chose a blazer type (uniform color for both top and bottom) is that I thought it would mean not having to worry about different colors.
- Since the top and bottom are the same color, I think it looks neat and coordinated.
- I believed that having the same color for both parts create a better sense of unity. (Many opinions)

■ From Junior High School Students (Girls)

- I believe something simple and stable is preferable. (Majority)
- Due to the burden of uniform costs, I thought it would be better to have something inexpensive. Additionally, I felt that plain clothing fits better with a junior high school student's appearance.
- I think simpler colors and patterns for the uniforms are better.
- Different styles between the top and bottom do not make the boys' uniforms look very good.
- I read that skirts and slacks tend to be cheaper when they are plain.
- Unifying the top and bottom makes the overall appearance look more polished.
- I think having a sense of cohesion is good. (Majority)
- I felt that having the same color for the top and bottom provides a sense of unity and neatness.
- I prefer something that isn't too flashy.
- Other uniforms look more like those of high school students.

■ From Guardians/Parents

<Distinction between mandatory public education and private high schools>

- Since it is a uniform for mandatory education, I believe there is no need for it to be fashionable.
- A simple uniform during compulsory education is easier for the local community to remember. If it has a checkered pattern, it may resemble high school uniforms.
- By minimizing flamboyance and maintaining a subdued uniform style, we aim to prevent an extravagant direction. This reflects the desire for students to have a stable school life.
- For elementary and junior high school students, who often struggle with self-management, spending money on designs that are cute or stylish is unnecessary. Since this is a period of significant growth, it would be better to minimize financial burdens and ensure that they appear neat and childlike at a low cost.
- It is appropriate for public junior high schools. A simpler design is preferable. It is neat and appealing. There is no reason to make it flashy.

From Many People

- I feel that if skirts or slacks have patterns, they are similar to the uniforms of private high schools, making them difficult to distinguish.
- If patterned, it tends to make the attire look more like that of a high school student, losing the essence of being a middle schooler. Since there is no inconvenience in plain designs, I believe the current color is sufficient.
- I think there is no need for distinctive design features, and something as simple as possible is preferable. Furthermore, simple designs are easier to substitute with others when something new is suddenly needed. A design that distinguishes it from other private schools and high school students would be ideal.
- It is preferable to be distinguishable from high school students. If there are patterns on skirts or slacks, they tend to resemble the uniforms of private high schools, making it difficult to differentiate. A patterned skirt may overlap with high school students.
- Other designs may become similar to those of high schools, making it hard to tell whether the student is in middle school or high school.
- Uniforms with different colors or patterns for the top and bottom are commonly seen in high school uniforms. If one wants to distinguish between middle school and high school students, having the same color for both top and bottom could serve as a guideline.
- Simple styles that are suitable for elementary and middle school students would be preferable. I believe that high school-level elements, such as coolness or cuteness, are not yet necessary.
- While I think that check patterns are stylish and nice, I believe that middle school students do not require that aspect. Simple is best.
- I want to respect the feelings of female students who wish to wear slacks. Also, considering the safety during commutes, their preferences for personal style, and the many concerns that arise during their developmental years, such as menstruation and body shape, it is reassuring for them to have mental support.

*****Considerations for Affordable Options for Low-Income Households*****

- I believe that if it's a public middle school, the uniform cost should be kept as low as possible. If one has a preference for a specific uniform, they can choose in high school. (Majority)
- As middle school students, the focus should be on affordability rather than design, ensuring that anyone can wear the uniforms.

- It is important for costs to decrease. I want to keep expenses low, so any reduction in price is preferable. Affordability is crucial. As a parent, I prefer items that are not too expensive. Current middle school uniforms are already quite costly. (Majority)
- Since public education is compulsory, I believe costs should be minimized. There is a disparity in family income levels compared to private schools. (Multiple)
- While design preferences vary among individuals and cannot be universally addressed, a lower price point is appreciated by everyone.
- During the most challenging period of adolescence, when physical growth occurs over these three years, I hope for uniforms that are clean and appropriate for middle school students while also alleviating financial burdens in the event of needing replacements."
- I believe there are various financial situations among families. I think one should decide on their favorite designs during their high school entrance. Even though they are inexpensive, the burden is still significant, so I believe the focus should be on price rather than design.
- I hardly wear it, and I don't understand the point of spending money on uniforms for public middle school students. If we are talking about gender, then students should wear what they prefer, be it a gakuran or sailor uniform. With the rise of impoverished households, we should produce uniforms affordable for low-income families.
- While patterned designs may be stylish, I would prefer to keep costs low due to other financial burdens.
- Since a lot of time I wear the uniform is limited, I think inexpensive clothing is best. (Majority opinion)
- I only wear uniforms when commuting, during tests, or at ceremonies, so I prefer low-cost options.
- Since I spend most of my time in gym clothes at school and only wear the uniform for commuting or events, I believe low-cost options are ideal.
- I do not seek fashion from uniforms. As long as they are functional, I consider inexpensive options acceptable.
- I prefer cheaper options, and I think plain designs can be cute; however, I find it frightening that over-stylization could lead to criminal behavior.

""<**Suitable for Everyone Beyond Body Type and Preferences**>

- Solid colors seem to suit everyone. I chose them because I believe they will look good on any body type. (Many)
- They are easy for anyone to wear without differing preferences.
- The design is simple and not influenced by personal tastes.
- Patterned types may raise concerns about preferences and suitability, but solid colors eliminate these worries and are neat and simple. (Many)
- Solid monochromatic colors can be worn with confidence.
- Depending on the pattern of the skirt, it can make one look older, and if the skirt length is below the knee, it may appear countryside. (Multiple)""
- It's the safest combination and won't get boring.
- Since preferences regarding patterns vary, I feel that plain and simple items are preferred.
- I think that matching solid colors for both the top and bottom suit anyone, regardless of gender or body type.

<**Stains are less noticeable / Suitable for formal occasions / Others**>

- I thought that navy pants would show stains less than others.
- They are inexpensive and seem to be less prone to show dirt. Additionally, if they mix with the old uniforms, they

won't stand out much.

- A simple design that isn't flashy would be good for formal occasions (multiple).
- Skirts and slacks in darker colors (black, navy, etc.) are less likely to show stains.
- The uniform itself should be simple, with checks being preferable for the ribbon or tie.

Support 'plain fabrics in different colors on top and bottom.'

■ Teachers

- A combination that is as inexpensive as possible while still maintaining dignity is helpful for each household.
- I want to create something different from other cities.
- I prefer not having patterns at the bottom, as it feels too flashy. If the top and bottom are the same color, it appears heavy.
- If the top and bottom are different colors, it is expected that even if the pants fade while wearing them without a jacket, they will not stand out much, which contributes to reducing the frequency of replacement.
- Clothing that suits everyone, does not show dirt easily, and has a neat and clean appearance.

■ Elementary School Student (male)

- I thought this was appropriate as school attire.
- A blazer type seems boring, and the patterned ones look too childish.
- I believe navy blue and gray match the best. The patterned one below is a bit flashy and I dislike it.
- I chose the one in the upper right because I dislike patterns and having both in the same color.

■ Elementary School Student (Female)

- Because it is simple, neither flashy nor overly simple.
- Checkered patterns do not suit me.
- If everything is the same color, it feels too simple, so I thought it would be nice to have different colors for the top and bottom.
- The reason is that it is simple and cute.
- Plain skirts or slacks feel more middle school-like. It varies from person to person, but patterns can be too flashy and irritating to the eyes.
- At first, I thought checkered patterns might be good, but in middle school, they don't seem serious and are a bit embarrassing.
- Plain designs are cheaper, and having different colors for the top and bottom gives a sense of balance without being overly uniform.
- Plain colors feel more calming.
- From a color perspective, navy blue paired with light gray has a nice balance.
- Patterns are cute, but I prefer simple, plain gray.
- A gray skirt is cute.
- When I think about it later, I regret choosing a checkered design and wish I had opted for a plain one.

■ Middle School Student (Male)

- I thought that a style with matching colors (solid colors) would make it look too much like an adult or high school student, appearing overly mature.
- To be honest, I excluded check patterns because I think they look unfashionable. I chose two items in different colors for the pants and the top, considering that it would be easier to distinguish them while doing laundry.
- I believe that the third and fourth options with patterns are not necessary for school life.
- By selecting solid items in different colors, it appears cleaner and more refined.
- If the bottoms have patterns, they might scare someone with collective phobia.
- I chose a visually appealing option while keeping costs as low as possible.
- I thought that differing colors for the top and bottom would help reduce mistakes, such as accidentally bringing two jackets.

■ Middle School (girls)

- The pattern is uncool, and when the top and bottom are in the same color, it looks plain.
- I thought that having different colors for the top and bottom with a solid design would be easier to wear over three years.
- I believe that having different colors for the top and bottom creates a more impactful impression, balanced neither too flashy nor too dull.

■ Parents/Guardians

<Neither too plain nor too flashy: Balance between design and price>

- Balance between design and price.
- It is best if it is inexpensive. The difference in color between the top and bottom can add a slightly stylish touch.
- Pants being plain seems more versatile.
- It's simple, and the child said they preferred something without patterns.
- The design is youthful and does not easily become boring.
- I considered that if both top and bottom are the same color, mixing and matching them when passing them down could lead to inconsistencies due to the differences in fabric from the store they were ordered from.
- I chose a style that has a more uniform and suit-like appearance for middle school uniforms, as wearing the same color can feel too formal; if a slightly more expensive check pattern is an option, I would prefer to choose plain options for safety.
- It has better design properties than a single color. I want to keep the price down with plain designs, which feel calming.
- I thought that different colors for the top and bottom are more fashionable.
- As a parent, while inexpensive options are ideal, I believe it's important for a teenager to find something they consider a bit cute.
- As a public middle school student, I believe that the uniform design is suitable for a price that is easy to access.
- Plain designs are more economical. I thought that having different colors for the top and bottom might make it easier to notice them even in the dark.
- I want to avoid checks as they are a common style. I feel that having different colors for the top and bottom gives a softer impression.

- I believe plain uniforms are more representative of middle school students compared to checks.
- I prefer something safe, but I would like to add a bit of variation.
- I would like a uniform that is more subdued and fitting for middle school students than for high school students. Since it should not be too dark to be seen at night, I prefer brighter colors rather than black or navy. For the bottoms, I prefer something that does not show dirt easily.
- Not too plain and not too flashy. Since the frequency of wear is low, I would like to keep the price reasonable.
- I prioritize cost-effectiveness, considering the possibility of outgrowing the uniform or it getting torn.
- Plain designs are more economical. Opinions might differ on patterns.

<p>Support for "Patterned Skirts"</p>
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●Elementary School Students (Girls)

- Because it's cute. (Many)
- Because it's wonderful to have various colors.

●Middle School Students (Girls)

- Because it's cute. (Many)
- Because it's more fashionable than plain ones. (Many)
- I thought it was cute and fashionable with patterns, fitting for middle schoolers.
- Because it has a sense of freedom.
- It makes me want to wear it because it's cute, and it lifts my mood, motivating me to study.

●Parents

- Because it's cute. (Many)
- Because it's stylish. (Many)
- I think it's cute. I want my daughter to wear it. My child said this is cute. (Multiple)
- I personally admired checkered bottoms.
- I felt it was sensibly cute. If students find it cute and exciting, it will enhance their feelings towards school.
- Since I have to pay a high price, I want it to be cute.
- I would like a stylish uniform that other district kids would envy.
- I feel that having patterns gives a good sense of style.
- I thought it would be nice if it had a sense of elegance.
- I don't think dirt will be noticeable. If the uniform is stylish, it becomes something to look forward to wearing.
- I think having even a slightly vibrant impression would be good for middle schoolers.

◎Other Requests

- It is helpful if the blazers for girls and boys are the same so that siblings of different genders can wear them. Also, I would like to remove ties and ribbons.
- For female students' skirts or slacks, I prefer dark colors so that menstrual leakage would not be noticeable.

(Multiple)

- Choosing from the above was very difficult and undesirable. In other words, I do not agree with the reasons for changing the uniform. Existing school uniforms adequately accommodate whether or not to take off the jacket, and many regions have adopted various countermeasures, such as incorporating open-collared shirts or polo shirts, with proven effectiveness.

I believe that the claims for the necessity of this uniform change lack substantial reasoning, and I cannot agree at all.

- I truly believe that sailor uniforms and gakuran are fitting for junior high school students. I support allowing girls to wear slacks. Simplicity is best. (Multiple responses)
 - I would like to have shorts and long pants. I dislike skirts. I also want short sleeves. I would like long pants and shorts for girls. (Elementary school girls)
 - Simplicity is important. I would like to have a unified blazer and tie, but also the option for individual students to choose the color for their shirts and bottoms.
Each child may have different comfortable materials or sensitivities. Since I heard that students change into tracksuits upon arrival at school, I do not feel the necessity to have everything match up to that point.
 - I would like to discuss and thoroughly consider how to respond to students who try to express their individuality through elements such as linings, garment lengths, skirt lengths and pleats, pant leg widths, cuffs, and ties.
- (1) As junior high school students often walk to school in the rain and change clothes, stylish and expensive uniforms can be cumbersome and may result in heavy or crumpled belongings on the way back.
(If wearing uniforms during the commute is basic, I'd also support other designs since they look good and are worn for longer periods.)
- (2) If any design includes a blazer on top, the current skirt lengths of junior high school students may become unbalanced.
It would be appreciated if considerations for uniform design included skirt length, socks, shoes, backpacks, etc., as a complete set.