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DR. KANDACE BETHEA
Superintendent

October 19, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Marion County School District is committed to having safe and orderly schools. Effective tomorrow, October 20, 2022 the district will operate under newly revised guidelines for middle and high school students regarding fights and physical altercations.

Any student who is involved in a fight will receive a mandatory ten day suspension and a referral for an evidentiary hearing.

A Discipline Task Force will convene to further review and update the Student Code of Conduct and discipline policies and additional changes may be forthcoming.

For clarity, fighting is defined below as outlined in the 2022 - 2023 Student Code of Conduct.

Fighting - An incident involving two or more students with mutual physical contact, such as hitting, kicking, and/or punching where there is no major injury or disruption.

For further clarity, involvement in a fight, is outlined below.

Recording a Fight - The use of any cell phone or electronic device to record a fight, post a fight, or share a fight with another person.

Inciting a Fight – To instigate or cause others to have a physical fight or confrontation.

Gang Fight - Two or more students attack, threaten, or intimidate another student.

Please contact your school's principal or Mrs. Martina Rush, Director of Student Services at 843-423-1811 with questions regarding the Code of Conduct.

Sincerely,

Kandace Bethea, Ph.D
Superintendent