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## NEWS RELEASE

Clayton County Public Schools

1058 Fifth Avenue | Jonesboro, GA 30236 770-473-2700 www.clayton.k12.ga.us

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Department of Communications, Public Relations & Marketing



Jada K. Dawkins Chief of Communications Telephone: (770) 472-7257

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## Clayton County Public Schools Establishes New See Something Say Something Anonymous Tip Line

**JONESBORO** – As Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) values the safety of all students and employees, the CCPS Department of Safety & Security has worked collaboratively with the CCPS Department of Technology to establish the *See Something Say Something Tip Line* on the district mobile application (app). Created as a replacement for the iWatch App, the new tip line allows students and employees to report potentially unsafe activities around schools and facilities.

"The reinstatement of the tip line is imperative to our mission as the CCPS Safety and Security Department," stated Chief of CCPS Police, Thomas Trawick. "As police officers, we understand the importance of building relationships within the communities we serve, however, we acknowledge that in some instances students and/or teachers may not feel comfortable approaching an officer. With the establishment of this tip line, I think we are bridging the gap between comfort and safety which will ultimately make our schools and facilities a safer place to work and learn with no additional cost to the school district."

Developed with the user in mind the *See Something Say Something Tip Line* allows users to create anonymous tips to the School Resource Officer (SRO) or safety personnel assigned to their location to report critical information as it relates to bullying, drugs, fighting, personal harm, theft or weapons. Once the tip is submitted, notifications are sent directly to the cellphone of the safety personnel assigned to the location, the Field Commander, and Chief Trawick. The tip line also allows the user to attach photographs to the tips as part of the submission process.

"I am very proud of the collaborative efforts between our Safety & Security and our Technology Departments to quickly work to implement the tip line on our existing mobile application," stated Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Morcease J. Beasley. "The safety of our students and employees remains a top priority and the *See Something Say Something Tip Line* is a great platform to provide everyone an opportunity to actively participate in safeguarding our schools and students."

According to the CCPS Chief of Technology, Rod Smith, the tip line was created by modifying preexisting capabilities of the CCPS Mobile App in response to a parent recommending ways for students to rapidly share information of experiencing any issues or unlawful acts within our schools.

"Initially the district was utilizing a separate application, iWatch, to receive tips," explained Mr. Smith. "However, once we moved on from the platform we felt it was imperative to modify the CCPS Mobile Application to house the tip line and provide easier access by having one district application which meets all needs. The tip line has been active since September and we are very pleased to be able to offer this avenue to ensure the safety of Clayton County Public Schools, its students, and employees," he concluded.

To access the tip line and stay connected with Clayton County Public Schools, download the CCPS Mobile Application, which is available for free on both Apple and Android devices.

## **About Clayton County Public Schools**

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 54,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.

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