



Clayton County Public Schools

"Building A Better Tomorrow, Today!"

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ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Division of Communications, Public Relations, & Marketing

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Clayton County Public Schools Releases Updated Statement on Incident *North Clayton vs. Riverdale High School game start time to remain 7:30 p.m.*

JONESBORO - Clayton County Public Schools shares a statement regarding an incident that occurred last evening at one of the high school games. On Friday, August 18, 2023, around 10:26 pm, an eighteen-year-old black male student who has been identified as a senior at Dutchtown High School (Henry County) was shot while in the parking lot of the Jonesboro High School vs. Mt. Zion High School football game at Hines Ward Field at Tara Stadium. According to investigators, the shooting occurred as a result of an attempted robbery. The victim appeared to be alert/conscious with non-fatal injuries when our officers observed him. There was an identified witness who appeared to be with the shooting suspect. At this point, it does not appear that currently enrolled Clayton County students were involved in the situation.

Clayton County Public Schools has as its number one priority the safety and security of its staff and students. Violence of any kind will not be tolerated. The district continues to take a firm posture against gun violence and is encouraging community stakeholders (e.g., legislators) to ensure proactive laws/policies are in place to protect our community against the growing violence in our communities and nation. The school district took heightened security measures last evening to ensure the safety of our staff and students. Some of these measures included extra security and vigilance from the Municipalities Police Staff, the Clayton County Sheriff's Office, Clayton County Police Department, and the Clayton County Public Schools Police Staff. The School District will also continue using weapon-detection devices and only allow clear bags/purses at its games. These measures are developed to keep staff and students safe inside of the game.

The district will continue to restructure to provide greater vigilance and safety precautions as it continues to confront the increase in violence among our youth in our nation. Moving forward, all games with fairly large crowds will now have adjusted start times. The district will provide additional updates as changes are made.

The North Clayton High School versus Riverdale High School game start time will remain at 7:30 pm at Southern Crescent Stadium.

-An official document from the Clayton County Public School System-

About Clayton County Public Schools: Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by Cognia. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 50,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the sixth-largest school system in Georgia.

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