



Detroit Community Schools District's Statement About Students' Disruptive Behavior

As Detroit Community Schools' (DCS) students returned to school from the COVID-19 pandemic, it appears some students are having a difficult time adjusting to the rigorous schedule of an in-school education. According to national youth experts, "The behavior issues (of students) are a reflection of the stress the pandemic placed on children, which upended their education, schedules, and social lives."

Parents and the community-at-large need to know some DCS students are dealing with stress, emotional outbursts, anxiety, and exhibiting other disruptive behaviors as they readjust to in-person learning, structure, and schedules. It appears that some arguments and physical fights at school and beyond DCS' campus are instigated by social media. DCS Superintendent Nancy Berkompas says, "For the safety of students and staff, I want everyone to be aware of the continued negative impact online platforms are having on our district."

At DCS, in addition to academics, the safety of students and staff is a top priority. To address the uptick in disruptive student behaviors, DCS has available for students with parental permission, social workers, counselors, an art therapist, behavior specialists, and mental health therapists to offer students coping strategies for the situations they face. DCS is encouraging parents to talk to their child about engaging in activities that may be harmful to themselves or others. Moreover, Detroit Community Schools District is taking the necessary steps to ensure it continues to provide a culture of academic excellence to support its students.