

Fight/Disturbance

Critical Information

Not all fights are criminal in nature. Many fights or disturbances are spontaneous behavioral situations that should not elicit a significant response from law enforcement. They should be handled by school staff and follow school district disciplinary policies and procedures.

When a fight or disturbance occurs:

Staff

- Notify building administration
- Ensure the safety of students and other staff
- Work as a team in response
 - One staff member seek administration assistance
 - One staff member address the disturbance
- Use a calm voice and low tones in addressing students
- If behavior escalates, shout “Stop!” and continue to use a calm voice to de-escalate the situation
- Disperse onlookers and keep others from congregating in the area
- Don’t let a crowd incite participants
- Separate participants
- Ensure that first aid is rendered to all injured parties (see Medical Emergency procedures)

Building Administration

- Address the event according to school district discipline policy and procedures
- Notify parents or legal guardians of students involved in fight
- Notify district administration and law enforcement as indicated by school policy
- Make appropriate referrals to student services or student assistance team
- Document all actions taken by staff and complete incident reports