



September 22, 2021

CCSD Families and Community:

Over the last couple of weeks, we have seen an increase in inappropriate behaviors at our two high schools. Students are choosing to resolve their issues with violence rather than addressing them in a non-confrontational manner.

Earlier today, there were physical altercations involving several students at Cedar Shoals High School. As a result, the school was placed on an extended lockdown. In addition, there were altercations at Clarke Central High School which required administrative attention.

These actions and behaviors cannot and will not be tolerated at any school in the Clarke County School District. In alignment with district policies and the student Code of Conduct, appropriate disciplinary action is being taken against all students involved in these incidents.

In response to these incidents, additional security is being assigned to both schools. Moreover, CCSD's Division of Student Support Services will be made available to provide additional assistance to staff and students for as long as it is needed.

I sincerely thank the Athens-Clarke County Police Department for its prompt response to our situation at Cedar Shoals. Additionally, the staff, teachers, and administrators at both schools and our CCSD Police officers are to be commended for their swift assistance in helping resolve today's events.

Situations like these negatively impact safety, instruction, and confidence in our schools. We ask that our families and community partners help us in addressing these disciplinary issues by discussing appropriate behaviors and consequences with your children.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

Xernona J. Thomas, *Ed.D.*
Superintendent of Schools