

For Immediate Release

Superintendent Takes Swift Action to Ensure Student Safety at Pittsburgh Westinghouse

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PITTSBURGH, PA October 23, 2019– Today, Superintendent Anthony Hamlet Ed.D., announced plans to ensure student safety at Pittsburgh Westinghouse, where recently an adult male threatened student outside of the school's campus.

"We are taking swift action to quell the impact community-based conflicts are having on the culture and climate at Pittsburgh Westinghouse," said Superintendent Hamlet. "We will not tolerate any actions that put student and staff safety at risk and are working collaboratively with our community partners to provide additional supports to ensure student safety."

The District has immediately taken steps to provide additional supports to identified students involved in recent student conflicts that have occurred on the school's campus. The District's Office of School Performance is also working collaboratively with community partners to strengthen mediation services and assist with limiting the impact of community-based conflicts on the school. In addition to meeting the social-emotional needs of students, additional security staff will be on hand to assist with student arrival, dismissal and to monitor common areas within the school frequented by students, such as the cafeteria.

"We will leverage the resources embedded in the Homewood community and our partnership with Homewood Children's Village to meet the needs of our students inside and outside of the classroom," continued Dr. Hamlet. "We will also provide additional administrative and mentoring support to new school leaders at Westinghouse and leverage the power of student voice through our Student Envoy Program and Superintendent's Student Advisory Council."

Student Envoys are students within the school trained to impact peer-to-peer and school-wide culture positively. The District will leverage the Student Envoy Project and those Westinghouse students who sit on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council to establish a student government at the school and bring more student voice to the table.

"We want to listen to our students to understand what they feel will more positively address the recent conflicts among their peers and ensure Westinghouse continues to be a welcoming place for students," said Hamlet.

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