



From the Desk of the Superintendent

Dear Fort Walton Beach High School Parents, Guardians, Faculty, Staff,

The Okaloosa County School District is committed to providing a safe, orderly, and focused learning environment for every student, every day. Student safety and the protection of instructional time are non-negotiable priorities for our district.

We are aware of information suggesting that protest activity may be planned in the Fort Walton Beach area Monday, potentially during the school day or near school campuses. The Okaloosa County School District's position is clear: activities of this nature should not take place during the instructional school day.

While individuals retain the right to lawful expression, schools exist first and foremost for instruction. Any action that interferes with classroom instruction, disrupts the school day, or creates a safety concern will not be tolerated. Students who leave class without authorization, participate in walkouts, or otherwise disrupt school operations will be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with district policy and the Code of Student Conduct which could include suspension from school or more severe disciplinary consequences.

The district is taking proactive steps to ensure campuses remain secure and orderly. School administrators are working closely with school resource officers and local law enforcement to prioritize student and staff safety and respond swiftly to any situation that threatens the learning environment.

District employees are required to remain neutral on political or social issues during the school day and may not encourage, organize, promote, or facilitate protest activity. Our staff's responsibility is to maintain student supervision and keep classrooms focused on learning.

We strongly encourage families to speak with their students about the importance of remaining in class, following school rules, and engaging in civic activities in appropriate settings that do not compromise safety or instructional time.

For additional context, we are attaching [recent guidance issued by the Florida Commissioner of Education](#) that reinforces statewide expectations for student safety, instructional time, and school operations.

We appreciate your partnership and support as we work together to keep our schools safe, secure, and focused on what matters most: student learning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marcus D. Chambers".

Marcus D. Chambers

Superintendent

Okaloosa County School District

[Memorandum by the Commissioner of Education](#)