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STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KEAAU MIDDLE SCHOOL
16-565 KEAAU-PAHOA ROAD
KEAAU, HAWAII 96749
(808)313-4800

December 11, 2017

Aloha KMS 'Ohana:

Keeping our students safe and secure is of top priority here at Kea'au Middle School. In recent weeks, we have had several instances of students participating in a "fight club" type situation both on and off campus. These fights are prearranged, some are worth "points", and the students have others video them to post to social media. Our School Resource Officer (police officer) has been informed and we are working together to put a stop to this as quickly as possible. This is extremely concerning and we are asking for your help to resolve this issue.

Please speak with your child regarding the situation. We would appreciate your help in reinforcing to your child the danger and consequences, both physical and legal of these types of activities. Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) 8-19-6 Prohibited Student Conduct, Class Offenses defines fighting as the following:

"Fighting" means instigating or provoking physical contact involving anger or hostility. Fighting includes but not is limited to:

- (1) Engaging in mutual physical contact involving anger or hostility;
- (2) Teasing, harassing, threatening, or intimidating others resulting in physical contact involving anger or hostility;
- (3) Retaliating physically for teasing, harassing, threatening, or intimidating behavior; verbally inciting; or
- (4) Physically supporting a fight by one's presence and encouragement.

Any Student found to be in violation of this statute will be disciplined according to Chapter 19 guidelines. Dependent upon the severity of the fight and physical injury, other legal remedies may be pursued including arrest. We appreciate your support in ensuring a safe environment for all of our students. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Hauanio (VP) at 313-4887 and Mr. Tanabe (VP) at 313-4809.

Mahalo,

Handwritten signature of Karrin Hauanio in blue ink.

Karrin Hauanio
Vice Principal

Handwritten signature of Brandon Tanabe in blue ink.

Brandon Tanabe
Vice Principal