Addendum to Student Physical Altercation Policy (Draft 9.17.2019)

 The Voyageur K12 School District is determined to perpetuate a culture that is conducive to optimal student and academic performance. Such an environment needs to be void of violent verbal and physical confrontations where any student feels threatened, bullied, unsafe, or simply uncomfortable. One of the goals of the district is to provide an environment (campus and classrooms) inclusive of the humanitarian core values of empathy and compassion. An environment and climate that promotes a school culture where all children may learn free bullying, threats, and antagonism.

Therefore, the K12 administrative team is asking Voyageur Academy’s Board of Directors to approve the following policy addendum to go into effect for the 2019/2020 school year:

* If a scholar(s) displays physical aggression or violent behavior toward any Voyageur student(s) they will be suspended indefinitely pending a thorough investigation of the situation. Due process will be given to all individuals or groups accused of acts deemed in violation of the addendum. The results of the investigation will be shared with the administration and disciplinary teams formed and empowered by the district’s leadership team.
* If scholar(s) displays physical aggression or violent behavior toward any of the Voyageur School District staff; they will be suspended indefinitely pending a thorough investigation of the situation. Due process will be given to all individuals or groups accused of acts deemed in violation of the addendum. The results of the investigation will be shared with the administration and disciplinary teams formed and empowered by the district’s leadership team.

Physical aggression is not limited to bodily contact, and includes any form of threats, bullying, and antagonism via social media and communication tools such as cell phones (text messages), internet, Facebook, and other forms of social media and electronic communications.

Physical aggression is not confined to the Voyageur campus, but is extended to peripheral functions and activities, such as athletic events (home and away), school busing (Triumph Transportation and other vendors), field trips, and school gatherings.

The addendum would become effective immediately after the Board’s approval. A communications plan will be subsequently developed to ensure effective communication to all stakeholders including students, staff members, parents, and guardians. This addendum would be signed by all parents and students accordingly ensuring their awareness and endorsement.