Dear Parents of Arabia Mountain High

All students who are not participating in school-sponsored activities must vacate the building and premises no later than 4:00pm daily. No student should be in the pick-up area after 4:00pm. It is a violation of school policy for any person to loiter on school property after being advised to leave by school personnel. It is the intent of the school administration team, to ensure that all students that are on the campus are in a safe and supervised environment. Students that are not attending an organized and supervised afterschool program and remain on campus after 4:00pm, are considered to be in violation of Georgia Law 20-2-1180 and the DeKalb County Schools Code of Student Conduct Student Rights and Responsibility rule #21.

All students and the general public should know that according to Georgia law 20-2-1180, it is unlawful for any personal to remain on the school premises or within the school safety zone when that person does not have a legitimate cause or need to be present. Such persons will be asked to leave by the school administration. Failure to do so is punishable under the law. Local law enforcement officials may charge any individual who violates this provision with criminal trespass.

According to the Code of Student Conduct Student Rights and Responsibilities for DeKalb County Schools, #21: LOITERING OR GOING ON ANY SCHOOL CAMPUS WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION/ TRESPASSING

Students are not allowed to enter the premises of a school other than his/her school, unless prior permission is received from an administrator of the school to be visited, or unless the school is hosting a school-related function, such as an academic or athletic activity. A student may not enter or remain in any school building on weekends or after school hours without authorization or permission.

NOTE: When a student refuses to leave any school property and/or returns to any school property after being instructed by school staff or law enforcement staff to leave the property, the student will be in violation of this section and the matter will be referred to law enforcement.

Penalty may range from detention to short-term suspension. For repeated incidents, a Local Formal Hearing must be held. Based on a finding of guilty at the Local Formal Hearing, the student is suspended for ten (10) school days and is referred to the Student Evidentiary Hearing Committee, which may result in suspension, a referral to an alternative school, or expulsion.

Every effort will be made to contact the parent, to determine the student’s transportation needs and if they are authorized to be on campus. Only in the extreme violation of the above law and rule, police assistance will be requested if any person(s) considering to be loitering fails to leave the building or school grounds after a reasonable request to do so has been
made by school authorities. Additional actions up to and including referrals to the school social worker and the Department of family and Children Services will be taken. We appreciate your efforts to help us provide a safe school and a safe learning environment for our students, school personnel, and the entire Arabia Mountain High School community.

Sincerely,

Rodney Swanson, Ph.D.
Principal