

when they returned to the locker room after the game, it did not look like how it did leaving halftime. If he had to estimate, any movement of personal items as referenced before would have occurred during the 3rd or 4th quarter.

>  
> I have included statements issued by the 6 players that I have pulled out to interview. I did not add any narrative whatsoever and stuck to their comments and statements. I am now proceeding to touch base with the coaches. I understand this is a very pressing matter, hence why I am making sure to do our due diligence in getting firsthand accounts from those directly involved, not comments made by others and passed along. What I want to prevent is more rumors being spread. Coach Ellison (and anyone else on staff) have been passing along any media contact to me, whom I have then passed along to you, Michelle.

>  
>  
> I'm going to continue collecting official statements and relay on what I gather.

>  
> Mr. Alex Huck  
> Activities & Athletics Director  
> Battle High School

>  
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Michelle Baumstark <MBaumstark@cpsk12.org>

> Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 2:01 PM

> To: Bruce Whitesides <BWhitesides@cpsk12.org>; Jennifer Rukstad <JRukstad@cpsk12.org>; Peter Stiepleman <PStiepleman@cpsk12.org>; John White <JoWhite@cpsk12.org>; Kim Presko <KPresko@cpsk12.org>; Alexander Huck <AHuck@cpsk12.org>

> Subject: RE: [External] Battle Football Incident

>  
> There are two written summaries that have been sent to Dr. Stiepleman by the Jackson Superintendent one from the superintendent and one from the Jackson AD. See below. Guys...we don't look good here. Sounds as though we had a poor display of sportsmanship and we need to get to the bottom of who was in the locker room supervising our athletes and what they saw and the condition of the locker room during 3 critical points... before they went on the field, at half-time and post-game when they returned to the locker room. Has anyone seen the video footage or had video footage of the locker room provided to them? No more media interviews from our coaches please. We cannot have any more third or fourth hand hearsay being perpetuated. The Tribune and Missourian articles were not helpful and in fact could do more harm than good at this point. Especially because nothing being reported on our end can be verified and even within our own reporting we're contradicting ourselves.

>  
> On Sep 30, 2019, at 21:37, Link, John <jlink@jr2mail.org> wrote:

>  
> Peter

>  
> I am sure you have been made aware of the incidents that supposedly occurred last Friday night when Battle traveled to Jackson for football. Our team has looked into this and has put together the following summary of the events as seen from our investigation.

>  
> Please let me know if you have any questions. It is very unfortunate that our school district and community is being portrayed so negatively by the Columbia local media. Like Columbia Public School we pride ourselves in being good host and showing strong character.

>  
> John  
>  
> Summary of Events

>

> Two officials (including the lead official) from Friday night's crew reached out to me yesterday evening after learning about the negative comments on social media. Both assured me that they did not use any profanity. Players from both schools were told to shut their mouths and play football. At one point, the lead official circled up the 11 players on the field from both teams and told them to stop chirping at one another and play football. He asked all 22 players on the field, "If they wanted to play next week?"

>  
> I thought this was a great move his part.

>  
> Witness Statement by John Martin

>  
> --  
> Dr. John Link

>  
> Michelle Baumstark  
> Community Relations Director  
> Columbia Public Schools  
> 1818 W. Worley Street  
> Columbia, MO 65203  
> (573) 214-3960  
> www.cpsk12.org

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Michelle Baumstark

> Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 11:39 AM

> To: Bruce Whitesides <BWhitesides@cpsk12.org>; Jennifer Rukstad <JRukstad@cpsk12.org>; Peter Stiepleman <PStiepleman@cpsk12.org>; John White <JoWhite@cpsk12.org>; Kim Presko <KPresko@cpsk12.org>; Alexander Huck <AHuck@cpsk12.org>

> Subject: FW: [External] Battle Football Incident

>  
> Who has this?

>  
> This really needs to be a top priority today. Jackson will come out claiming we are embellishing and exaggerating if we don't get this under control soon....which will not be a good look for BHS, our students or our district. Please move this to the top of your lists for today. And please ask coaches to not do any more interviews until we have completed our side of the investigation. I'm also being contacted by media in Cape.

>  
> Michelle Baumstark  
> Community Relations Director  
> Columbia Public Schools  
> 1818 W. Worley Street  
> Columbia, MO 65203  
> (573) 214-3960  
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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Brittany Wiley <brittany.wiley@kmiz.com>

> Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 11:12 AM

> To: Michelle Baumstark <MBaumstark@cpsk12.org>

> Subject: [External] Battle Football Incident

>  
> Hi Michelle,

>

> It's Brittany with KMIZ. I just spoke with the superintendent from the Jackson school district. He said they sent video and a summary of the investigation into the purported racist treatment of the Battle players and fans. Could you confirm CPS has that information? If so, what is CPS planning to do with it and about the situation? Thank you.

>

> Brittany Wiley

> Reporter/Anchor ABC 17 News

> Cell: 816-385-7946

> Office: 573-777-9598

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