

Lunchroom Fight Artifacts:



Photo taken on school cafeteria camera at 11:42AM the day of the fight

Both Max and Justin were wearing light colored shirts that day.

To whom it may concern,

Max would never start a fight. He's the sweetest boy I know. He has had a hard time lately with me and his dad losing our jobs, but he still would never start a fight with anyone. He's a mentor to the younger boys and helps out at church. To start a fight would be so unlike him. He tries to welcome the new kids into school- I've seen it before.

Max can be a little goofy, but he's never one to go this far. For Max to fight like this, he has to be pretty angry and provoked.

Before you make any decisions on who started the fight, please understand that Max is a leader and a good boy who wouldn't want ruin his relationships with others. I can't speak for the other boy in the fight, but Max certainly has no record of ever fighting in school before.

Sincerely,

Joan Phillips (Mother of Maxwell "Max" Phillips)

E-mail sent from Mrs. Phillips on the day of the fight at 3:24PM.

Two days following the fight- this letter was left at the front desk.

Dear Principal,

Just so you know, I wasn't in the cafeteria when the lunchroom fight happened, but I thought you should know some things going on in the school. I have classes with Max and Justin on B-days. I've seen some of the things Max and his friends will do to Justin when the teacher isn't looking. They're not physical or anything, but they like to say jokes under their break and then laugh and stuff like that. I'm not trying to get anyone in trouble, and I don't want anyone to think I've tattled. So, I'm not going to tell you my name. But I hope this information helps.

Sincerely,
Anonymous Student

Interview with Witness:

Cafeteria Worker

Principal: What did you witness today in the lunchroom?

Cafeteria Worker: “I was behind the counter serving up food, when I noticed a group of boys pushing each other around about 20 ft. away. It happened so quickly, and there were students blocking my view, but I saw a group of boys throwing punches and then food at each other.”

Principal: Did you see who threw the first punch?

Cafeteria Worker: “Like I said, it was kind of hard to see them from behind the counter, but I really think it was all an accident. There was a group of boys joking around and I think one of them ran into the new boy, and then the new boy took it the wrong way. Soon after that, food started flying and more students seemed to get involved.”

Principal: Yes. It was quite a mess in there today. Did you notice anything else in the fight?

Cafeteria Worker: “That was really all I saw. Soon an administrator came to break it up and that was that. There was food all over- what a waste. And today was spaghetti, which is pretty hard to clean up.”

Principal: “We’ll make sure to get that all cleaned up. Thank you for your time.”

Interview was taken directly after school on the day of the fight

Administrator Report

Time of Incident: 12:15

Incident that occurred: Fight in the Lunchroom

Name of persons involved in the incident: Maxwell Phillips and Justin Charles

Administrator involvement: I came in from the Commons and helped to pull the two boys away from each other when I noticed them punching each other and throwing food.

Injuries: Both boys had received trauma to the face. Justin Charles had a bloody lower lip and a bruise along his chin. Maxwell Philips had a small cut above his right eye and a purplish bruise at the top of his right cheek.

Describe the event and how you saw it happen: I was monitoring the commons area. I noticed Justin heading in the direction of the commons, and then noticed a group of boys with their cafeteria trays walk by. As the boys were passing by, I noticed Justin talking to one of the boys (who I think was Max) in the group. Justin looked uncomfortable and angry. Shortly after that, a big commotion erupted and students started throwing food at one another. In the meantime, Justin and Max must've started punching each other- resulting in the injuries listed above.

Were parents contacted? Yes. I called Justin's father who was busy at work, so he called back and left a voicemail. I sent Max's mother an email of this report after I tried calling by phone and couldn't get a hold of her.

Action Taken: Because of the nature of the fight, both boys are being held responsible and are at risk for suspension and possible expulsion from the school. Until further evidence is found, both boys are staying in the office and will be doing service hours to help repay the damage they've done.

Voicemail left by Justin's Dad:

"I can guarantee 100% that Justin would never lay a finger on anyone unless he was really provoked. Trust me. And I know because we've had to move around quite a bit in the last few years because of my job, so unfortunately, Justin knows what it's like to be the new kid. And I've watched him go through these adjustment periods at each new school. He just lies low, and pretty soon the other kids see what a great kid he is. So I know as a fact that Justin wouldn't stir up trouble. It's really not in his nature."

Janitor's Map of Mess

Created as Janitor cleaned up the Cafeteria Mess at 12:25 on the day of the fight

