

PURPOSE: For dormitory residents who do not share a bedroom with another student to be allowed to make a “combined bed”

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

SECTION ONE (DEFINITIONS):

Combined Bed: When both beds with a dormitory room are pushed together and bedded as a singular, combined, and larger bed.

SECTION TWO (REASONING):

The majority of students at this school have spent the entirety of their MSMS career sharing a dormitory room with another student; yet, there are still terms, semesters, and even complete school years where some students live in a room individually. Although this lack of a roommate might come with drawbacks, such as a lack of developed camaraderie or more work for room inspections, there are some possible upsides to this situation.

One of these benefits, and the focus of this bill, is the ability for this student to create a larger bed out of the two twin-sized beds supplied within their room. Although some might object to this idea, it is important to consider that the consequences of allowing this has minimal to no affect upon the student and staff body. For example, the procedure for treating bed bugs remains the exact same as before. And, although some might be concerned about this being an “unfair” situation to those who cannot combine beds, the number of students who even get this opportunity remain a large minority within the school population. If there are only a small number of those who live individually within their rooms, why should they not be allowed to take advantage of the space they are given?

SECTION THREE (SPECIFIC CHANGE):

On page 83 of the Student Handbook (PDF page 89) under the section “Student Affairs – Residence Life,” the following would be changed to:

Decorating Student Rooms

Students may make their rooms comfortable, but they must realize that the Residential Life Staff will determine, much as parents do at home, the appropriate decoration of rooms, doors, and hallways. Make note of the following guidelines:

- RL.16. Adhesives - Nails, tacks, screws, glue or tape of any kind may not be used to attach items to the walls, doors, or any woodwork. Only yellow or white Handi-tak or painter’s tape may be used to stick items to these areas.
- RL.17. Doors - The outside of students’ doors must display students’ names and room numbers. Decorations are allowed; but since they are in common areas, they must adhere

to the guidelines below. It will be up to the Hall Director whether an item will remain on the door.

- RL.18. Posters/Pictures and Advertisement - The following are prohibited throughout the residence halls:
 - Posters, pictures, or text that promote tobacco products or alcoholic beverages, illegal or inappropriate drugs, participation in sexual activity, or violence
 - Posters or pictures of nude or partially nude people or those wearing transparent clothing
 - Any vulgarity, obscenity, or profanity
 - Anything expressing personal opinions that belittle, offend, or denigrate any individual or group as outlined under Harassment.
- RL.19. Furniture/Room Arrangement
 - Furniture may not be damaged or taken apart.
 - No lofts may be constructed.
 - All MSMS furniture must remain in the room. Lounge furniture may not be moved from the lounges.
 - Bed frames may not be placed on other furniture. Mattresses shall not be placed on the floor.
 - All doors must open completely and without interference.
 - A pathway must be open to allow both roommates unobstructed access to the bathroom and the hallway.
 - The entire room must be visible from the hall door.
 - Students living without a roommate are permitted to combine both beds into a larger bed so long as their arrangement adheres to the rules stated within the Student Handbook. In doing so, this student is accepting any responsibility for damage caused upon both beds during their time spent with this combined bed.

Mr. Allen Response: “I wouldn’t mind giving it a try... if there are any issues/taking advantages (horseplay/wrestling/damage) then they will be written up and rescinded.” “others might”