

SM administration tightens its grip

"This procedure is to be implemented in order to solve the problems of class disturbance and to secure the personal property of students."

At least six teachers have reported fewer student disturbances since the new regulation was enforced. "Kids were running in the fluid spaces, and the general noise level was high," said Tara Brock, English teacher. "The situation has gotten much better."

However, Brock as well as other teachers have noticed that many late students are stranded in the stairwells after the doors are closed, consequently causing them to miss the entire second part of class.

The increased number of monitors used in patrolling the halls has also raised a question concerning the school's

"We're free of any violence such as assault and robbery... whereas some schools in Dade County need to employ security officers with arresting power."

—Assistant Principal
Rhea Farthing

security situation. According to Farthing, a monitor has no arresting power but is employed to maintain order in the halls.

One such monitor was involved in a recent confron-

tation with an SMSH student. The student, who declined a formal interview, said that the scuffle began when he had refused to clear the hall at the order of the security monitor. A fight ensued whereupon the student alleges that the monitor bit him on the neck.

Although Farthing declined to comment on the matter, he did say that the monitor, who has been dismissed from duty, had done a better job than had past monitors. Farthing went on to say that he is unsure if any new outside security monitors will be hired.

Jim Talbott, a social studies teacher, said, "No one from outside the school should be monitoring the halls. The

students should police themselves and they would find themselves better off."

New security measures have recently come into effect—most noticeably the locking of the doors between 11:35 and 12:00, the limiting of six students per lunch table. Non-homeroom teachers continue to monitor the halls during the homeroom period.

Farthing said that they would like to see additional security measures added to the present system to control disturbances. "It would be ideal to have an additional free period for the teachers so they could patrol the halls," said Farthing. "However, teacher contracts and the lack of money will not allow us to do so."

inside...