



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent

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March 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to inform you that I have recently learned that some students are considering plans to protest or walkout of school in response to the tragedy in Florida.

Our top priority in Sacramento City Unified School District is teaching and learning. We are also committed to supporting the academic and social emotional needs of our students while maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment. We respect and support the right of our students to advocate for causes that are important to them and welcome the opportunity to work with any student club or organization to discuss appropriate and creative ways to do so while maintaining a safe learning environment.

We are well aware of a planned 17-minute National School Walkout on March 14, 2018 led by youth focused on bringing greater attention to keeping students safe from gun violence. Our district is having discussions about how students might be encouraged to express their views on that day in a coordinated manner in partnership with our teachers, the City of Sacramento, community-based organizations, and law enforcement. We will be sure to inform you of our plans over the next few days.

We also understand some students have engaged in discussions about missing class to participate in student “walkouts” **prior to** March 14, 2018. While students have a right to engage in free speech to express their views, any class that is missed prior to the coordinated effort on March 14, 2018 will be marked as an unexcused absence.

Again, we encourage students to speak to our staff about ways they can constructively advocate for the causes that are important to them while remaining on campus where safety measures are in place to ensure supervision and security. I will keep you informed about planned events on March 14, 2018.

Sincerely,

Jorge A. Aguilar
Superintendent