

MOUNT SINAI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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Deena Williams-Timo, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

March 7, 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians:

As I am sure you are aware, over the last few weeks there has been much conversation about school safety and planned demonstrations of student activism. As such, there is a nationwide student "walkout" scheduled for March 14, 2018, in memory of the 17 lives that were lost in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida. Specifically, this highly publicized "walkout" is encouraging students across the nation to walk out of school at 10:00 a.m. and remain outside for 17 minutes in honor of each the 17 victims.

In the wake of this horrific event and with this organized "walkout" on the very near horizon, I met with our student government and class officers to inquire about the student body's thoughts and intentions. As such, I was informed that a population of our students plans to participate in this demonstration while other students may not. That being said, in an effort to accommodate the desires of all students and maintain their safety and the security of our buildings/campus, the following plan will be communicated to staff and implemented on March 14, 2018:

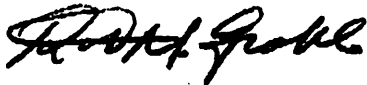
- At 9:50 a.m., security will close the entire campus to all visitors.
- At 9:55 a.m., an announcement will be made informing students who want to participate in the "walkout" to exit their classrooms and arrive at the main entrance/exit.
- Students (supervised by security, staff and administration) will exit the building and follow the sidewalk to arrive at the track/turf field area.
- Upon arriving to the track, students will be encouraged to demonstrate acts of kindness that have the ability to strengthen our school culture and climate. That is, walk with and talk to 17 people they have not spoken with in the past, smile at 17 people they normally wouldn't smile at, say something kind to 17 people, offer friendship to 17 people, and/or hug 17 people who are welcoming of a hug.
- At 10:17 a.m., all students will be escorted back into the building via the main entrance and directed to return to their period 4 class.
- At 10:25 a.m., security will reopen the campus to visitors.

Students who choose not to participate in the "walkout" will remain in their classrooms with their assigned teachers.

With all of the aforementioned considered, it is our goal to accommodate all students; those who wish to participate and those who do not, safely and with minimal distraction to the learning process. However, the safety of our students is paramount. In this regard, our security staff and the Suffolk County Police Department will be overtly present to assist us supervising this demonstration. Moreover, while we recognize and encourage family conversation/support, due to security and safety protocols, parents and family members are not permitted to assemble with the students.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 631-870-2800.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Grable
Principal

RMG:mam

c: Mr. Gordon Brosdal

Handwritten signature or scribble.