



Office of Superintendent

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March 5, 2018

Dear Menasha Joint School District Families:

Following the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida, there has been a call to action across our country to protest school violence. This includes a national school walkout event planned for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 14th, the one month anniversary of the shooting in Florida. We anticipate that some students in our schools may wish to participate in the walkout, and we want to provide you with some basic information to assist you and your student.

Some students may wish to exercise their First Amendment rights to express their views by participating in the walkout. Other students may not. We want to make sure that all of our students feel safe and respected, no matter what they choose to do. If a walkout does occur, classes will continue according to the regular schedule for the day.

Please have a conversation with your child about this important topic. If questions arise from these conversations, we encourage you to contact your school's principal.

If you decide to excuse your child from class to participate in a walkout, please contact your school's attendance office to excuse the absence in advance. As is stated in our attendance policy, students who leave class without parent permission will be considered unexcused tardy for that time period.

Please know that we highly value our strong partnerships with our students, families and community. We will continue to be vigilant in our efforts to work with you to ensure a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment in all of our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris L. VanderHeyden", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris L. VanderHeyden
Superintendent of Schools