Dear High School families,

We are aware that following the tragic event that occurred in Parkland, Florida, some of our high school students are planning to participate in the student-led National School Walkout event on Wednesday, March 14. This event has been organized to honor those who died in the school shooting and to bring awareness to school safety. Some students plan to walk out of classes at 10 a.m. local time and gather on campus for 17 minutes in a show of solidarity for the Florida victims.

We recognize the event as a powerful moment of civic education and a good lesson in democracy. While we will not encourage students to participate in the event, we recognize students' rights to peacefully demonstrate. We encourage parents and guardians to talk with your child about the event and his or her participation.

Our high school will operate on a Tiger Time/Falcon Support schedule on that day, which means that the walkout will occur during the support time. Teachers will be available in their classrooms to provide learning support for those students who do not participate in the walkout. The expectation is that all students will stay on campus and arrive on time to their third period class.

Our primary focus is to make sure students feel safe, and we are planning to have administrators and members of our security team provide support during the event. We also ask students to understand that with the right to demonstrate comes responsibilities. ALL students need to be respected no matter whether they choose to participate.

This is one of many events that have been organized across the country following the February 14 tragedy in Parkland, Florida. We will keep you posted on any other events that may impact the school day.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us if you have any questions,

Travis Drake, Prairie Principal Mike Hamilton, Battle Ground Principal