



CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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March 12, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Many of you may already be aware of the “ENOUGH” National School Walkout in which students across the country may be participating. According to the national organizers, the walkout is planned for March 14th at 10 am and is planned to last for 17 minutes.

Students and parents have shared with us that some ConVal students plan to participate in the walkout. In our work as educators, we have two responsibilities: one is to ensure student safety and the other is to support students in learning how to express their free-speech rights on issues in appropriate ways. It is important to note that as educators we do not endorse any specific position. We have met with student organizers to discuss their plans and how to ensure that this student-led activity is peaceful and safe. Meeting with student leaders in advance is not an endorsement of their views or actions but an attempt to minimize disruption that will occur to our educational programming.

Managing an assembly of students calls for ensuring student safety, providing adult supervision, and communicating clear and consistent expectations. As we plan for March 14th, it is important for students, parents, and staff to know that no matter what cause or position for which students may choose to assemble, the protocol, described in the next paragraph, will be put into place.

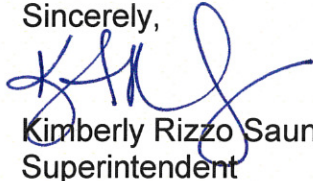
Following meetings with student organizers, administrators have identified specific locations where students may peacefully assemble for the organized duration of the walk out, in this case the anticipated 17 minutes. This location will be shared with students, who have discussed plans with the appropriate building administrator, on the morning of the planned event. Students who choose to “walk out” are expected to use the appropriate location, conduct themselves peacefully and then respectfully return to class at the end of the allotted time in order to minimize the disruption of a walkout. Students who choose to leave campus, skip class, or conduct themselves in ways inconsistent with non-violent demonstration will receive the consequences that would be accorded in any other case of such behavior. For those students who are not participating, the school day will continue as normal.

During the walkout, local law enforcement and designated staff members will be present to ensure student safety. While we will expect students to remain on campus, those who

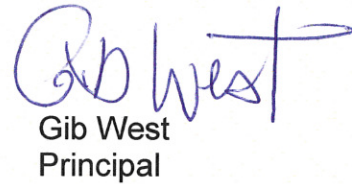
choose to leave will not be stopped. We will be managing traffic onto campus during the duration of the walkout. As a safety precaution, only vehicles and persons cleared by law enforcement or a designated ConVal staff member will be allowed onto campus during the walkout because we want to be sure that those on campus are well intentioned and have a specific reason to be present.

We will be sharing this information and our expectations for the day with students prior to the walkout. Please be sure to review with your student(s) your expectations for them on March 14th. As always, please reach out to us with specific questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KR Saunders', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end.

Kimberly Rizzo Saunders
Superintendent

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gib West', with a long horizontal flourish extending from the end.

Gib West
Principal