



Richmond Community Schools

300 Hub Etchison Parkway · Richmond, IN 47374
Phone: (765) 973-3300

March 9, 2018

Dear RCS Students, Parents, Staff and Community Members:

The recent events that took place in Parkland Florida have impacted people in many different ways and with that have also sparked various levels of reaction to these, and other, senseless acts. There are those who are calling for public demonstrations from community members, educators, parents, and students. One of these demonstrations is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14th, at 10:00am and it encourages students to “walk out” of their schools as a way to draw attention these recent events and the concerns that are associated with them. As a certified School Safety Specialist of more than ten years, this demonstration concerns me. The fact that organizers of this movement have now publicized a date and time that students will leave the safety of their school buildings to demonstrate in front of the school house is troublesome.

Our administrators, teachers, and students have been discussing positive ways to communicate the concerns of all of our stakeholders. Students have the right to share their concerns. Richmond Community Schools encourages our students to share their opinions and concerns in a proper manner which does not include causing a disruption of the learning environment. Any demonstration that rises to the level of disrupting the school environment will be reviewed by administrators in light of our Uniform Code of Student Conduct. We will continue to encourage our students to let their voices be heard while we maintain a safe and orderly learning environment.

As a district, we will continue to review our safety plans on a regular basis and work closely with our community partners to address concerns as they arise. I encourage parents to talk with their students about the issues at hand. I also recommend our students, parents, staff, and community members share concerns with our local, state, and national leaders.

Sincerely,

Todd Terrill
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