



Ichabod Crane Central School District

2910 Route 9, P.O. BOX 820, Valatie, New York 12184
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<http://www.ichabodcrane.org>

March 12, 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians:

As many of you know, there was a school tragedy at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018. Our hearts go out to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School community and family. This tragedy, along with the many tragedies in schools over the years has sparked a reaction aimed at protecting the safety of our children.

There is a "National School Walkout" that has been designated for this Wednesday, March 14 at 10:00 am. At Ichabod Crane the objective of this school "walkout" is a forum for students to share their perspective about the need for a safe school environment.

I was approached by a group of students who want to participate in this national effort while following the Code of Conduct and remaining in a safe environment in order to express their freedom of speech. In meeting with the students, I asked them to define their purpose of participating in this event, and what message they want to convey. The students have been steadfast in that they want to focus on school safety and keep the conversation on the forefront of everyone's minds. They also want to stand in unison with the mission to show solidarity with the students of Parkland, Florida and to commemorate all those impacted by school violence. This is neither an anti-gun nor pro-gun rally.

Students who wish to participate must sign up ahead of time so that we can account for those attending. Students in attendance will be responsible for any work missed during that time. Those who do not wish to attend the assembly will remain in classes. To ensure their safety, students will remain in the building for the "walkout." At 10:00 am students will walk down to the gymnasium. There will be a few prepared speeches, and a moment of silence in honor of those lost in Parkland, Florida. At the end of the walkout, students will return to class.

This is a student-led initiative and will remain so, with some guidance from administration and supervision from classroom teachers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig T. Shull".

Craig T. Shull

Principal