



Ichabod Crane Central School District

2910 Route 9, P. O. BOX 820, Valatie, New York 12184
(518) 758-7575
<http://www.ichabodcrane.org>

March 12, 2018

Dear Parents of 7th & 8th Graders,

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 and we have been discussing ways that the our students can participate in this national effort, while at the same time, following the Code of Conduct and remaining in a safe environment in order to express their freedom of speech. They are committed to showing solidarity with the Parkland, Florida community and to commemorate all those impacted by school violence. This is not an anti-gun nor pro-gun rally. This assembly's main focus is to address school safety and how they are feeling in school.

On Wednesday morning, students who wish to participate in the "walk-out" will sign up in their homeroom. In order to ensure student safety, the event will take place inside the building in the cafeteria. Those who do not want to attend the assembly may choose to go to the Library at that time. The assembly will begin at 10 am. There will be a couple of prepared student speeches, the names of the seventeen victims will be read aloud, and there will be a moment of silence. At the end of the moment of silence, the students will walk back to their fourth period class.

This is a student-led initiative and will remain so, with some guidance from administration and supervision by classroom teachers. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Farley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Tim Farley
Principal