



GRANBY Jr./Sr. HIGH SCHOOL



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Mr. Stephen Sullivan
Principal

Mrs. Alison Jordan-Gagner
Assistant Principal

March 14, 2018

Dear GJSHS Parents/Community,

This morning at 10:00AM a majority of our student body participated in a walkout in remembrance of the victims of school shootings, specifically those impacted by the tragedy in Parkland, FL, and to advocate for their rights to learn in a place that is safe, and free from violence. The tragedy at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018 and other losses of life on school campuses across the nation over several years have driven increased interest in student-led civic engagement efforts and actions, including the idea of school walkouts. We want to support students' rights and work with them to ensure activities like this are opportunities for learning and growth, well-planned and respectful. While this event was student led, GJSHS staff and administration worked with students to plan for today's demonstration. Today, specifically, had been identified as a National Day of Action. Our students were clear they wanted their voices to be heard in remembrance of the victims of the Parkland, FL tragedy and support of school safety for all.

At 10:00AM, students walked out and formed the number "17" to remember the victims of the Parkland, FL tragedy. Additionally, two student leaders spoke at this morning's event, students were encouraged to wear red/maroon and/or white, maroon and white ribbons were distributed and there were 17 balloons in memory of each of the Parkland, FL victims. While all students were invited to attend, it was made clear that it was their

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choice whether or not to walkout. Students who chose not to walkout were asked to report to the library so there was adequate supervision for all students. The demonstration was peaceful and respectful, and lasted approximately 17 minutes. Students then returned to class and we proceeded with our regular schedule.

There was information regarding this event in last Friday's weekly bulletin--The Ram Report. We intentionally did not provide additional information because as we collaborated with students, school staff and the Granby Police Department it was decided that the best way ensure everyone's safety and security was to be judicious with the information that was shared prior to the event.

Thank you for your continued partnership!

Sincerely,

Stephen Sullivan, Principal

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