

## Fern Bacon Middle School

"A New Era of Excellence"

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Mary Coronado, Principal

March 13, 2018

Dear Families of Fern Bacon Middle School,

As you know, at Fern Bacon Middle School our top priority is teaching and learning. With only 6 weeks left of preparation for CAASPP / SBAC testing, our vision to be high school-ready remains. Recently, a number of schools have indicated their desire to participate in a 17-minute walk-out on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am to demand action on gun violence after the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida. While this issue weighs heavily on all of our hearts and minds, I want to provide some information on how the Fern Bacon Student Body and Leadership students plan to conduct activities on this day. Our plans include:

- Honoring the victims in a Remembrance Activity by releasing a balloon in their name;
- Writing postcards to their elected representatives demanding change during lunch if compelled;
- Expressing their views for or against change on an open mic during lunch;
- Expressing their emotions, thoughts, and sentiments on a large poster in the quad.

I encourage you to talk to your child about how they may be feeling about this issue and the importance of expressing themselves in appropriate ways at school. As educators, we also recognize that student activism is a part of the learning process. When students are passionate about an issue, it is an opportunity for educators to help students see the connection between state standards and real life.

Lastly, it is important to know that disorderly conduct that disrupts school operations is not acceptable and will be handled compassionately but firmly, in accordance with our school's behavior policy. We want to ensure that all student-led efforts are handled in the most peaceful, respectful way and in the best interest of all our students.

Thank you for your continued support of Fern Bacon Middle School. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Coronado Principal

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