



# CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL

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OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

March 12, 2018

Dear Parents,

You may have heard about the National School Walkout. I want to give you a brief background to this day and inform you of how Chaminade intends to address it.

What is the National School Walkout? For 17 minutes at 10 a.m. across each time zone on March 14, students, school faculty and supporters around the world will walk out of their schools to honor those killed in the massacre at Parkland High School earlier this year and to protest gun violence. Women's March Youth EMPOWER, the organizers of the March 14 demonstration, says the walkout is to "protest Congress' inaction to do more than tweet thoughts and prayers in response to the gun violence plaguing our schools and neighborhoods."

At Chaminade, we encourage our students to be knowledgeable about all aspects of political and social issues. Students research and discuss issues in class and often in club activities (Sodality, Social Studies Club, Speech and Debate, etc.). While we certainly are aware of the various aspects of the Ash Wednesday tragedy, our young men need to see this as part of a larger issue.

We hold the safety and security of your sons as paramount. On Wednesday we will not have a student walkout but, rather, at 10:00 a.m. all classes will stop and we will pray a decade of the Rosary in remembrance of all those who have died due to gun violence at schools and we will pray for peace and a peaceful resolution to this crisis in schools.

As a faith community, Chaminade will respond with prayer rather than politics and protests.

Sincerely yours,

Bro. Joseph Bellizzi, S.M. '78  
Principal

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